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AND

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CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	481
Leading Articles:—	
The Transit Pass Trade at Canton	482
The United States and Hawaii	482
Copenhagen's Free Port and the Hongkong	
Light Dues	483
The Diamond Jubilee Road	483
The Diamond Jubilee	483
Supreme Court	485
Hongkong Sanitary Board	486
The Diamond Jubilee Road	486
Panic at Tientsin	487
Diamond Jubilee Subscriptions	487
The Hongkong Electric Co., Limited	488
The Eureka and Queen Mines	488
Rubb	489
The Wreck of the Sultan	489
The Diamond Jubilee Memorial at Hankow	489
Canton Notes	489
Hongkong and Port News	489
Commercial	491
Shipping	492

DEATHS.

On the 9th June, at 10.15 p.m., at his residence, No. 15, Nakayamate-dori Nichome, Kobe, DONALD FRASER, of Ashton Inverness, Scotland, aged 46 years.

At No. 18 Oura, Nagasaki, on the 14th June, JAMES FRANCIS WOODFORD, in his 39th year.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

There have been no arrivals of mails during the week.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Singapore Municipality announce a four per cent. loan at an issue price of \$95 (or upwards) for each \$100.

A contract has been concluded for the dredging of Macao harbour and the work is to be commenced this week.

A special telegram from Shanghai to the *Daily Press* states that the French intend to illuminate the French Bund for the Diamond Jubilee.

It is reported amongst the Chinese at Hoihow that the French are only awaiting a favourable opportunity to take possession of the island of Hainan.

The first direct steamer of the season from Foochow, the *Glenlyle*, sailed on the 10th inst., taking nearly 3,450 tons of tea for London and the Continent. She was to be followed by the *Ulysses* on the 17th inst.

Mr. H. M. Hillier, Commissioner of Customs at Kowloon, received, late on Saturday evening, a telegram from the Inspector-General of Customs informing him that Tuesday, the 22nd instant, has been made a Customs holiday at all the Treaty Ports of China in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

We are requested to ask gentlemen who have obtained promises of lanterns from Mr. H. E. Wodehouse to send to the Praya, front of the City Hall, on Monday morning at ten o'clock, at which hour they will be issued. Gentlemen requiring them at an earlier date can obtain them upon applying direct to Mr. Wodehouse.

Five hundred and sixty-three inland transit passes were issued at Canton during the first quarter of the present year, which shows that the new privilege is being largely availed of.

The American residents at Bangkok have petitioned President McKinley that the present United States Minister-Resident and Consul-General at Bangkok, the Hon. John Barrett, be retained at his post during the new administration.

Formal notification has been received by Mr. Barrett and the Siamese Government of the consent of the British Government to Sir Nicholas J. Hannou, British Chief Justice and Consul-General in Shanghai, acting as arbitrator in the Cheek case. He will sit in that capacity in Siam in December.—*Siam Observer*.

The Straits Settlements Association (Singapore Branch), acting in concert with the parent association, are collecting information and preparing the case for the Colony in connection with the repeal of the C.D.O. A local Committee consisting of Messrs. St. Clair, Robinson, and Dr. Galloway has been appointed, and will be ready to receive any communications upon the subject.—*Free Press*.

A special telegram to the *Daily Press* reports that absolute panic prevails in Tientsin city fomented by anti-foreign rowdies. The causes are said to be the intended dedication of the French Cathedral, Mahomedan discontent, kidnapping by Southern junkmen, and discontent amongst the boatmen who have been superseded by the railway. The Foreign Concessions are prepared and not alarmed.

There arrived in Singapore on the 11th June the Dutch steamer *Reyniersz*, of Batavia, which brought from an island in the Gaspar Straits the shipwrecked crew of the British barque *Ardmore*, of Glasgow. The *Ardmore*, an iron vessel of 1,100 tons, left Bangkok on the 3rd of May last, with a cargo of rice for Rio de Janeiro, and struck a reef in the Gaspar Straits on the 19th of May. The vessel had to be beached on a neighbouring island, and the crew, none of whom were lost, were taken on board the *Reyniersz* on the 7th June, and were brought on to Singapore.

We (*Kobe Chronicle*) greatly regret to announce the death of Mr. Donald Fraser, which took place last night (9th June) shortly after 10 o'clock. Mr. Fraser, as is well known, had been in bad health for some years, and it is almost three months since he was confined to his room and all hope practically abandoned. Mr. Fraser has been for some eighteen years in Japan. From his association with banking business in Japan he is very well known in both Yokohama and Kobe, and his many friends will mourn his loss at the comparatively early age of forty-six and sympathise with his widow in her bereavement. Mr. Fraser joined the Commercial Bank of Inverness in 1870, and three years later he joined the old Oriental Banking Corporation in London. He came out to Yokohama in 1878, and took charge of the branch of the bank in Kobe in 1885. Subsequently he became manager of the New Oriental Bank, Limited, in Yokohama, which position he resigned in 1892 to take charge of the National Bank of China. In 1894 he went home on leave, returning again in 1896, when he established himself as a broker in Kobe, but unhappily has not lived long to pursue his new calling.

It is reported that the Japanese Government has decided to ask for an appropriation of some 1,600,000 yen in the Budget for next year to double the cable line between Nagasaki and Ke-lung.

Moukden, the native city of the present dynasty and capital of Western Manchuria, will have a mint to coin silver dollars, subsidiary coins, and copper cash soon, the machinery for coining them having arrived at Newchwang from Europe last month. To prepare the people for the innovation proclamations are being now posted by the various local authorities in every city and market town of that province.—*N. C. Daily News*.

M. Ranchot, the French Charge d'Affaires at Bangkok, died on Friday, 4th June. The deceased officer had been in Bangkok less than a month. The *Bangkok Times* says:—Till this week M. Ranchot had been apparently in good health, and last Sunday afternoon the British Minister and he were for the first time received in audience by Her Majesty the Queen-Regent. Next morning M. Ranchot was seriously unwell with fever and dysentery. It was thought he might have got a touch of sunstroke, but there can be no doubt that it was the deleterious effect of the climate of Madagascar that most severely handicapped him. His ten years' residence in that island during a troublous and trying period which threw upon him a great amount of difficult work, had seriously affected his constitution; and he was only about six months in Europe before coming on to Siam. On Tuesday he rallied a little, but after that he grew gradually worse, and on Thursday it was thought advisable to administer the Last Sacrament. All hope had not then been given up, but there was no change for the better, and he passed away about five o'clock yesterday afternoon. Empire must be paid for in human lives, and in the fullest sense it is true of M. Ranchot that he died in the service of his country.

The celebration of the Queen's Jubilee commenced in Hongkong on Sunday, when special thanksgiving services were held in all the churches. H. E. the Governor, H. E. the General, the principal officials, and the Jubilee committee attended St. John's Cathedral in state; there was a crowded congregation and the service was extremely impressive. Yesterday, Monday, was left out of the programme, the understanding being that the mercantile community would get their mail work advanced as far as possible, so as leave to-day, Tuesday, free for Jubilee observances and festivities. In the morning there is to be a reception at Government House, followed by the presentation of addresses from the colony, the Chinese, and the Freemasons. In the afternoon there is to be a grand review of the garrison, in which the Marines and seamen of the Royal Navy will also take part, and it is anticipated there will be nearly three thousand men on the ground. In the evening there is to be an illuminated procession in the harbour and illuminations on shore. To-morrow, Wednesday, the foundation stones of the Hospital for Women and Children and the Diamond Jubilee Road are to be laid in the morning, and in the afternoon there is to be a gymkhana, with a repetition of the shore illuminations at night. On both days an exhibition of curios will be open at the City Hall and a flower show at West Point.

THE TRANSIT PASS TRADE AT CANTON.

The Customs revenue at the Chinese Treaty Ports during the first quarter of the present year amounted to Tls. 3,935,704, as against Tls. 3,737,998 in the corresponding quarter of last year. The Kowloon and Lappa returns, which are not included in those of the Treaty Ports, also show a gratifying increase, the amount collected being Tls. 269,154 as against Tls. 229,596 in the January-March quarter of 1896. This increase in the Customs collections necessarily indicates an increase in the volume of trade, and amongst the Treaty Ports the largest increases have taken place at Shanghai and Canton, the collection at the former being nearly Tls. 113,000 in excess of that of the corresponding quarter of 1896, while the Canton increase amounts to over Tls. 64,000. special interest attaches to the Canton returns, as they show the business done under transit passes, which are now issued in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties. It was only in January last that the proclamations officially recognising and sanctioning the issue of transit passes in Kwangtung and Kwangsi were issued and some little time had to elapse before traders in general were prepared to take advantage of the privilege. We find, nevertheless, that the total number of passes issued during the quarter was 563, which must be considered satisfactory as a commencement. Possibly the number may show some diminution during the succeeding quarters, owing to the opening of the new ports on the West River, as it will now be unnecessary to take out passes for goods destined for those points, but the transit pass privilege has evidently proved valuable and been appreciated, and if its strict observance by the Chinese authorities be insisted upon it cannot fail to largely minister to the growth of foreign trade in the inland markets. The goods conveyed under transit passes were as follows:—

Cotton goods:—

Shirtings, grey	pieces	2,290
" white	"	1,220
T-Cloths	"	2,022
Chintzes and furnitures	"	240
Cotton damasks	"	61
Cambrics and muslins	"	417
Handkerchiefs, cotton	dozens	250
Japanese cotton cloth	pieces	41
" " " " "	"	178
Cotton towelling, Japanese	catties	10
" " " " "	"	75
" " " " "	"	10

Woollen goods:—

Lastings	pieces	20
Long ells	"	70
Spanish stripes	"	12

Sundries:—

Alum, white	piculs	138
Carpets	pieces	2
Furniture	"	33
India-rubber shoes	pairs	500
Lace, silk	value, Hk. Tls.	82
Matches, wood, Japan	gross	65,749
Oil, kerosine, American	gallons	455,850
" " " " "	"	120,600
" " " " "	"	73,500
Safes, iron	pieces	2
Silk and cotton ribbons	value, Hk. Tls.	111
Sundries, unenumerated	"	211

A notable feature in the above is the quantity of kerosine oil taken inland, being practically the whole quantity imported into Canton. For several years past the kerosine oil trade has been confined almost exclusively to junks and so has not come under the cognisance of the Foreign Customs at Canton, but with the establishment of the transit pass trade a considerable amount has been passed through the Customs in order to avail of the new privilege. Thus the total quantity of kerosine of all descriptions imported into Canton during the first quarter of the years 1894-97 was

as follows:—1894, 41,135 gallons; 1895, 7,495 gallons; 1896, 7,140 gallons; 1897, 657,345 gallons. Of the last named quantity no less than 649,950 gallons were taken inland under transit pass. This is not a mere transfer of trade from junks, because the quantity passing the Kowloon Customs during the first quarter of the present year was 3,266,690 gallons as against 3,028,255 gallons in the corresponding quarter of 1896 and 2,685,350 gallons in 1895. In the small quantity passing the Lappa stations there was also an increase. It is a justifiable inference, therefore, that the quantity conveyed inland from Canton under transit pass represents so much absolutely new trade brought into existence by increased trade facilities.

THE UNITED STATES AND HAWAII.

It would seem that President McKINLEY has not taken an undue time in making up his mind on the Hawaiian question, for on the 14th inst., REUTER telegraphed that there were indications showing that the President was considering the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands or of proclaiming a protectorate over them which would eventually lead to annexation, and two days later we are told that a treaty for the annexation has been signed at Washington. This Treaty is to be submitted to the Senate immediately, and as that body is undoubtedly jingo there is every reason to believe that it will pass the Bill. The House of Representatives will possibly debate the question, and may even reject the Treaty, but we think this is unlikely. It is true that the United States Government has, in past times, refused to entertain the idea of annexing either the Hawaiian Islands or any other territory outside the American continent. It has been an article of faith with American statesmen, indeed it has been regarded as almost a law of the constitution, that the limits of the republic should not be extended beyond the North American Continent. That the republic should remain compact and self contained has always been the aim and intention of its founders and successive rulers, one great object being to avoid imbroglions with Foreign States. In later years there has been some departure from this policy of insulation. President MONROE, when inaugurating his doctrine that the United States could not admit the right of European States to intervene politically on the American Continent, unconsciously paved the way for the gradual evolution of a new policy which may destroy that insulation hitherto so strongly cherished. Whether or not the MONROE doctrine is calculated to enure to the benefit of the American nation it is as yet too early to pronounce, at all events dogmatically. It may be argued, for instance, that the great Anglo-Saxon Republic should by right of its size, wealth, importance, and intelligence naturally assume a leading position on the American Continent, and claim the right to intervene in any quarrel between a lesser Power and any European States. This was done in the case of the French invasion of Mexico, when NAPOLEON III. was warned off, and the unfortunate MAXIMILIAN left to his tragic fate. Only the other day the Republic claimed the right to arbitrate between Great Britain and Venezuela; and she may, on another occasion, interpose in a quarrel between Germany and Brazil, or Italy and Argentina. It is quite within

the bounds of probability that perseverance in this policy may involve the United States in a war with a great military Power, but the Republic is well able to take care of itself, and though at present singularly vulnerable to attack on its coasts, would soon show that it possessed the means wherewith to enforce its menaces and decisions.

In the event of the Senate and House of Representatives endorsing the action of the President, there is not likely to be any serious opposition to the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands to the United States. The British Government will not raise any protest, for although British interests are considerable in the whilom kingdom those of American citizens are greater. Years ago, if we remember rightly, Great Britain was asked to establish a protectorate over the islands but refused to do so, partly from an indisposition to intervene and partly from a desire not to wound American susceptibilities. British interests in the islands will be much more assured if the islands are annexed to the United States than they would be, say, under Japanese rule, and England is not wont to act the part of the dog in the manger. A crisis has undoubtedly arrived in the history of the islands. The provisional Government has come into collision with Japan, and must either kunkle down to superior force or must seek outside assistance to endorse and defend its action in excluding Japanese immigrants. Rightly or wrongly, the island Government has become alarmed at the influx of the Japanese. The population of the islands in 1890 was 89,990, of whom 34,436 (little over one-third) were natives, 6,186 half-castes, 7,495 born in Hawaii of European and American parents, 15,301 Chinese, 12,360 Japanese, 8,602 Portuguese, 1,928 Americans, 1,344 British, 1,034 Germans, 297 Norwegians, 70 French, 588 Polynesians, and 419 other foreigners. At the present moment the Japanese population is estimated at nearly 30,000, and is constantly increasing. The recent success of Japanese arms over China, the acquisition by Japan of a powerful fleet, and the appearance in so many foreign ports of Japanese merchantmen, have strongly impressed the Government of weaker States, and there is obviously some likelihood of Japanese interests in the group eventually overshadowing those of all other Powers combined. There are, too, many temptations to Japan to aspire to the sovereignty of these lovely and fertile islands. They already afford a capital field for Japanese labour and would, if acquired, give employment for Japanese capital and manufacturing industry. The Japanese might also win over the support of the natives, who are not antipathetic, and they would soon find ways of ousting the Chinese population. It would therefore be far less difficult for Japan to absorb Hawaii than it has proved for her to assimilate Formosa. Not unnaturally Japan has protested against the American annexation of the islands, and Germany may be inclined to follow suite, but if the American people approve, the treaty will be ratified, England acquiescing. Some action has become necessary in the interests of the Caucasians resident in Hawaii, and if the United States Congress were to decline to endorse President McKINLEY's action, Great Britain would probably be asked to annex the islands in order to save them from becoming the appanage of an Oriental State. But there is little question of the treaty being accepted by the American nation. Such acceptance will necessarily mark a new departure in American policy and may one day prove to have far-reaching results.

COPENHAGEN'S FREE PORT AND THE HONGKONG LIGHT DUES.

"Copenhagen and its Free Port" is the title of an elegant little volume, tastefully illustrated, published for the Free Port Company, Limited. The volume is intended as an advertisement and will prove very effective for that purpose, but it is also interesting and useful from a public point of view for the information it contains, especially at the present time to merchants in the Far East, seeing that a powerful Danish Company has just been formed under State auspices with the object of recovering for Denmark the position in the Far Eastern trade that she formerly possessed, but lost at the close of the last century. In the eighteenth century, we read in the little volume before us, Denmark's commerce made such enormous strides that this period is generally known as the "Merchant's golden age." The large merchant companies, ships brought home valuable cargoes from China and the East and West Indies and distributed their merchandise to all the surrounding states. The wealth of these companies may be conceived when it is stated that one company, in gratitude to the King for favours received, raised a monument to his honour in the Amalienborg Square at the cost, in present money, of about £80,000. The glories of this time, however, came to an abrupt termination. During the bloody wars at the commencement of this century nearly the whole of the Danish merchant fleet was captured, and simultaneously there was a collapse in the money market. A large quantity of paper money was issued, without a sufficient bullion reserve, with the natural result that State bankruptcy ensued. About this time, by the Peace of Kiel, Norway was separated from the Danish Crown. The nation naturally, after these misfortunes, required time to recuperate. The rich merchants had lost all or the major portion of their property, the universal poverty bred discouragement amongst all classes and paralyzed all enterprise. Trade passed over to Hamburg, and Copenhagen seemed lost. About the middle of the century matters mended a little. Strong national and political conflicts brought new life and interests, assisted to arouse courage and to weaken the connection with Hamburg; thus gradually Copenhagen reasserted itself and regained the position it ought to occupy. In the year 1800 Copenhagen had 100,000 inhabitants; in 1860 the number had increased to 160,000, whereas in 1896 the population had increased so enormously that with the suburbs the inhabitants of Copenhagen now number 410,000 souls. During the last years much has been done to improve and augment the natural advantages of the city. As the town grew and its resources expanded, it became evident to all the leading men that if Copenhagen were to keep its place in the commercial world it was necessary to improve what was already a first rate harbour, and that this improvement was necessary was clear from the stride that maritime matters had taken. A large, modern, well constructed Free Port and docks were what were required to meet the demand of the times, and these are now successfully completed. So far we have quoted from the book. It should be explained, however, since the Government of Hongkong has been asked to look to Copenhagen as an example on the subject of light dues, that the term "free port" is not used as regards Copenhagen with the

same signification that attaches to it in Hongkong. The free port of Copenhagen is simply a portion of the general harbour and quays marked off from the remainder and within which goods may be landed, stored, or transhipped without Customs formalities; but all goods leaving the free port for Denmark itself have to pass the Customs. In fact the Free Port Company stands in much the same position as the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company would stand if Hongkong levied duties on goods and the Government had conceded to the Company the right to conduct its storage business in bond, its premises being railed off and the boundary guarded by Customs officials. Under those circumstances we do not see the appositeness of the Copenhagen example. In Hongkong fortunately we have no Custom-house, nor do we want one. Nor in the matter of simple port dues, have we much to learn from the Danish port. At Copenhagen the dues are certainly low as compared with many other European ports, but it would be a rude shock to local shipping firms if it were proposed to levy dues on the same scale in Hongkong. At Copenhagen a vessel of 1,000 tons register pays £26 4s.; at Hongkong the same vessel would pay, under the present scale of light dues, something less than £2 10s. It is true that at Copenhagen the dues cover wharfage, but if a vessel coming to Hongkong desires wharfage the Wharf and Godown Company will accommodate it for a good deal less than half the amount charged at Copenhagen. The Danish port is to be congratulated on its enterprise in establishing a free harbour and on the comparative liberality of its regulations, but in comparing it with Hongkong, Copenhagen would do better to take an example from this colony than would Hongkong to take an example from Copenhagen. In Hongkong we want relief from the present rate of light dues, because we think it should be the policy of the colony to impose no taxation at all upon shipping beyond what is required to cover the actual cost of the maintenance of the lights. That is a position in support of which abundance of sound arguments can be found; whereas arguments founded on a comparison with Copenhagen or other ports imposing higher dues seem to us to bring the case for the colony, intrinsically a good one, into ridicule.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE ROAD.

Mr. MASTER's suggestion to abandon the Kennedytown-Aberdeen section of the Diamond Jubilee Road comes rather late in the day, and, besides this, his proposition that as an alternative the gradients on the Pokfulum Road should be eased is hardly practicable. The Pokfulum Road ascends to the Gap between Mount Davis and the Peak acclivity, and as the distance is too short and the contour of the hill unfavourable for the construction of a zigzag road the only means of easing the gradients would be to make a tunnel or a gigantic cutting by which the road could be carried past the Gap at a lower altitude than at present. Either of these schemes would probably be as costly, or possibly more so, than the making of the new road near sea level. Moreover, the military authorities might object to any cutting away of the hill behind the forts. Even if the scheme were carried out the improved Pokfulum Road would not be nearly so valuable to the public in general as the road near sea level, which will not only be available for recreative purposes but will also encourage the extension of the

city westward and the growth of Aberdeen. Mr. MASTER objects to the new road on the ground that Chinatown will have to be passed through in order to reach it, but this objection has little force now that wide roads and streets are being made in connection with the Praya Reclamation. When these are completed a drive out westward will be much more agreeable than passing through the congested Queen's Road to the eastward. Mr. MASTER has, we think, entirely failed to establish any case for a reversal of the decision already arrived at.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

THE THANKSGIVING SERVICE.

On Sunday morning a large congregation attended at St. John's Cathedral for the Thanksgiving Service in commemoration of the completion of the sixtieth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. Special seats had been provided in the Chancel for H.E. the Governor, H.E. the General Officer Commanding, the principal officials, and the Jubilee Committee. In the body of the church the ordinary sitting accommodation had been supplemented by the placing of chairs in every available space, but notwithstanding the efforts made to provide for as many as possible large numbers had to stand in the doorways.

Those taking part in the Governor's procession assembled at the Government Offices and marched to the west door of the Cathedral, where they were met by the choir and clergy. The route from the Government Offices was lined by the Police, and the central passage of the nave of the Cathedral was lined by a detachment of the Volunteers under command of Lieut. Machell (Field Battery) and Lieut. Fullerton (Maxim Gun Co). The order of the procession was as follows:—

CHOIR.

CLERGY.

Mr. Crawford	Mr. Danby
Mr. Ritchie	Mr. Jackson
Mr. Gray	Mr. Gillies
Mr. Ho Tung	Mr. Fung Wa Chuen
Mr. Mody	Mr. Mehta
Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G.	Hon. W. Chatham
Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.	Hon. C. P. Chater
Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, C.M.G.	Hon. T. Sercombe Smith
Hon. W. M. Goodman	His Hon. Sir John W. Carrington, C.M.G.
Captain Phillips	Mr. C. C. Platt
Mr. Buckle	
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.	
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING.	
Lieut. King	Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman
Commodore Holland, R.N.	Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart
His Honour Mr. Justice Wise	Hon. R. Murray Rumsey, R.N.
Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving	Hon. T. H. Whitehead
Hon. Ho Kai	Hon. Wei Yuk
Mr. MacEwen	Mr. J. Thurburn
Capt. Clarke, R.N.	Mr. H. Smith
Mr. Raymond	Col. Gorges
Col. Elsdale, R.E.	Col. Gordon
Commander Cochran, R.N.	Mr. Lawford
Mr. Moses	Surgeon-Ccl. Evatt
Lt.-Col. Faithfull	Commander. Gransmore, R.N.

The naval, military, and civil officers were in uniform, the Chief Justice and Puisne Judge wearing their wigs and gowns.

The clergy present were the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, the Chaplain of the Cathedral, who preached the sermon, the Rev. G. R. Vallings, who intoned the Service, and the Rev. W. Banister, of Foochow, who read the lessons. Mr. A. G. Ward presided at the organ, and there was a strong choir, specially augmented for the occasion.

The only decorations of the church, but very striking and effective ones, were the Royal Standard and St. George's flag above the altar, and a trophy of flags hanging from the roof of the nave.

The Service was drawn up in accordance with the authorised form. The special hymn, however, in the place of the *Venite*, and Psalm xxi. in place of ci. and cxxi., were retained as in the Accession Service in the Prayer Book. The Order of the Service was as follows:—

Voluntary, "The War March of the Priests," Mendelssohn.
Hymn, The National Anthem.
Responsory (Ferial).
Hymn, instead of the *Venite* Monk
Proper Psalms, xx.xxi., Aldrich & Woodward.
Te Deum, Smart.
Jubilate Deo, Smart.
Anthem, "O Lord our Governor," Gadsby
With special Solo, composed by Mr. A. G. Ward.
Hymn before the Sermon, Barnby.
Hymn after the Sermon, Cruger.
Voluntary, Postlude in D Smart.

The whole service was most impressive and will long dwell in the memory of the large congregation. The special tenor solo composed by Mr. A. G. Ward was sung by Mr. D. K. Sliman. The composition is a very beautiful one, and it was a fortunate circumstance that Mr. Sliman was present in the colony to give his assistance in rendering it. The words were as follows:—
"Behold, O God our defender, and look upon the face of Thine Anointed. O hold Thou up her goings in Thy paths, that her footsteps slip not. Let her dwell before Thee for ever. O prepare Thy loving mercy and faithfulness, that they may preserve her."

The following special hymn was sung before the sermon:—

QUEEN of our homes and hearts,
Her realms rejoice to-day:
Great cities hush their marts,
The village greens are gay:
Her people kneel to bless His hand
Who made her ruler of the land.

Thro' sun, thro' storm and stress—
Our Queen for sixty years—
Her soul no littleness
Has known, her heart no fears,
Therefore we thank our God whose will
Empower'd her and upholds her still.

For more than wealth's increase
And bounds set far and wide,
For her just love of Peace
With Honour at its side,
We sing our praises to the Lord
Who gave her wisdom with the sword.

For more than power in strife
For queenly grace of good,
The pattern of pure life
To maid and motherhood,
For this her gracious dower we praise
The Giver of her lengthened days.

For more than sov'reign place
Among the kings that reign,
For all her constant grace
To woe and want and pain,
Her realms rejoice from shore to shore,
And pray, "God bless her evermore!"
Amen.

The Rev. R. F. Cobbold preached as follows:—
In reference to a king of Israel, it is written in 1 Sam. x. 24., "And Samuel said to all the people, 'See ye him whom the Lord hath chosen, that there is none like Him among all the people.' And all the people shouted and said, 'God save the King.'" In all this vast congregation assembled here to thank Almighty God for the unexampled, and unprecedentedly long and prosperous, reign of Queen Victoria on the Throne of England, there cannot be one heart which does not rejoice to think that, with millions of Her Majesty's subjects and friends all over this wide earth, he is sharing that fire of loyalty and love which was fresh ignited three score years ago, has continually brightened in our hearts, and will never be extinguished. Is it not right that we should this day join the Queen herself in thankfully acknowledging that the Almighty God is in this as in all things the Author and Giver of life? Many of you have before seen this House of God thronged, either to celebrate the Jubilee of our beloved Queen's Reign, or to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of this Colony. You have also seen it filled with a congregation whose hearts were bowed in grief by the sudden and unhappy disaster which robbed our Sovereign of some of her most faithful subjects and our country of some

of her most promising sons. Different as were those occasions, one thought, the chief thought, remained the same—that our lives are not our own; our times are in God's hand. To-day there is the same submission, and happily no sadness. To-day we celebrate life and progress, a greatly extended Empire, and a long and glorious Reign. Divest yourselves for the moment of all personal share in this greatness, and recall who and what She is, who, by the Grace of God, is our Sovereign and the Defender of our Faith; recall the reason why we should here give thanks unto God, and ever pray "God save the Queen." She is the noblest of women; who, when the cares of State or private sorrows have pressed hard upon her, has yet ever had the heart to sympathize with the sorrowing, and, what is more, the hand to assist the suffering. And be it remembered that she herself learnt this great virtue in the school of affliction. Though her life has been spent in the splendour of the Palace, it has been spent entirely for others; it has ever been a pattern for the humblest English home. As Maiden, Wife, Mother, and Widow she has been a true Woman.

Through all this tract of years.
Wearing the white flower of a blameless life.

Not one of us knows from experience what sixty years of public life means. If we did, "sixty years" would not be the way to measure it. The years pass by—the works remain. Does not it convey some idea of what has been done, when we remember that, as Queen, Her Majesty has known and given her confidence to no less than ten Prime Ministers? that in that time the whole personnel of her Privy Council has changed? that every Bishop's See has been at least twice refilled, and the whole Bench of Judges at least twice replenished? And what wonderful progress has been made in Religion and Science, in Education and knowledge, in Colonisation and Commerce, in the arts of peace and the arts of war, in personal comforts and in healthy pastimes! True, the seeds of these were sown long ago, but new seeds have been sown by the happiness of invention, by the originality of genius, by the perseverance of labour. Old weeds have been rooted out; too-forward branches have been pruned; fresh stems have been ingrafted; plants have blossomed and borne fruit; and the gathered and garnered seeds have been re-sown. During these sixty years there has been a "quiet, gradual, orderly, and organic growth." Some of you may have assisted it; all of us are privileged to utilise it; it has been fostered under the wise and affectionate rule of our beloved Queen; and we inherit the sacred duty of giving thanks to Almighty God for His beneficent love and care. Shall this growth continue? While English womanhood is content to imitate the dignity, the gentleness, and the purity of the *Woman*,—while English manhood, not forgetting to be chaste, is willing to follow the integrity, the honour, and the justice of the *Queen*, so long shall "ever-broadening England" stand as she stands, the happy home of Prosperity, Plenty, and Peace, the mother of her scattered yet united children. And the harvest of moral and material progress will supply all needs occasioned by temporary scarcity, pestilence, adversity, or sorrow. When we say, nay when we pray, "God save the Queen," we pray not only that He may "Grant the Queen a long life, even for ever and ever," but that all the good that she has inspired, all the right that under her has been done, all the real progress that has been made by her people, all that she is, may be preserved and continued till "God has made the pile complete." To-day we thank God for the long and glorious and prosperous Reign of Victoria the Good. We thank Him for her example, and for her love. We thank Him for these feelings of loyalty which thus enable us to praise Him. But what is the cause of our loyalty? Is it not that we delight in serving our Queen and our Country? If so, may that thought inspire us with the lofty aim and determination that in the service of God we may be as loyal to Him as we are to our earthly Sovereign, lest in the end it be our sorrow to utter the great Cardinal's great lament,

Had I but served my God with half the zeal
I served my king, He would not in mine age
Have left me naked to mine enemies,

—naked to the enemies of pride, greed, ambition, and egoism. As we revere and serve our Queen, shall we not also revere and serve our God, rendering to all their due? You remember how the ideal knight, by personal intercourse with, and influence over, and encouragement of his companion knights, declared:

I made them lay their hands in mine and swear
To reverence their King, as if he were
Their conscience, and their conscience as their King,
To break the heathen, and uphold the Christ,
To ride abroad redressing human wrongs,
To speak no slander, no, nor listen to it,
To honour his own word as if his God's,
To lead sweat lives in purest chastity,
Not only to keep down the base in man,
But teach high thought, and amiable words,
And courtliness,
And love of truth, and all that makes a man.

Such is our duty to our God and our Queen, in whose hands we have laid our hands in promise of service, obedience, devotion, and love.

May all love,—

The love of all her sons encompass her,
The love of all her daughters cherish her,
The love of all her people comfort her.

As Samuel said of Saul, I say to you of Victoria the Good, "See ye her whom the Lord hath chosen," and all the people shouted and said "God save the Queen."

The sermon, with its eloquent periods, its religious fervour and patriotism, and its marked appropriateness to the unique occasion, must have stirred the hearts of all who heard it.

After the sermon the following special hymn was sung, during which the offertory, which was for the organ restoration fund, was collected:—

To Thee, O God, be praise,
Sole Source of every blessing;
To Thee we come to-day,
Thy watchful care confessing:
A nation's thanks we bring,
A people's heartfelt praise,
For Queen Victoria's reign,
Her Heaven-sent length of days.

By Thee alone she rules,
Thine is the Arm which strengthens;
Her reign vouchsafe to guide,
As day by day it lengthens;
Still may her people's hearts
In prayer surround her throne—
Her Tower of strength, her Shield,
The Lord of Hosts alone.

O King supreme, endow
This nation with Thy blessing;
Our Queen preserve in peace,
Her people's love possessing;
And may Thy Holy Church
Fresh triumphs win for Thee,
Till o'er this English realm,
The Cross triumphant be

Great God of nations, hear,
Thou Majesty tremendous;
All needful blessings give,
Defence and succour send us;
So shall we praise Thy Name,
Thy faithfulness adore—
The God our fathers served
Our God forevermore. Amen.

After the prayer for unity the benediction was pronounced, and the Governor's procession then left the Cathedral in the same order as at its arrival, the Volunteers again lining the passage.

SERVICE AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL.

A special thanksgiving service in connection with the Diamond Jubilee took place at the Roman Catholic Cathedral at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday and was conducted by the Right Rev. Bishop Piazzoli, assisted by the Rev. Fathers Martinet and Gabardi. The Rev. Fathers Viganò and Spada acted as masters of ceremonies and conducted the Consuls and naval and military officers to the seats specially reserved for them.

The service, which was very impressive, consisted of Mass, the Te Deum, and the Benediction, and occupied one hour. The church was very tastefully decorated with fresh flowers. The congregation was a large one and filled the entire building.

Amongst those present we noticed the Consuls for Spain, France, Austria-Hungary, and Belgium in their full uniform, the two first-

named being also accompanied by their Vice-Consuls. There were also present several English, Spanish and Portuguese naval officers, also in full dress, Mr. J. J. Francis, Dr. Hartigan, and many other well-known residents, a party of Volunteers, the Roman Catholic members of the 1st West Yorks and Royal Artillery, sailors from the British Navy, and a contingent from the Spanish cruiser *Reina Cristina*.

At the conclusion of the service the whole congregation stood up and the choir, consisting mostly of boys from the St. Joseph's College, sang very impressively "God save the Queen."

THE PARSEE SERVICE.

A congregation of the members of the Parsee or Zoroastrian community of Hongkong was held on Sunday afternoon at their premises in Elgin Street for the purpose of offering prayer and thanksgiving of Almighty God in commemoration of the completion of the sixtieth year of the reign Her Majesty the Queen Empress Victoria. There was a full gathering and after the usual office for "Jussun" service and other prayers had been gone through a special service for the occasion was held under the auspices of the Trustees of the Zoroastrian Fund of Hongkong, Canton, and Macao—Messrs. Mody, Mehta, and Battliwara. The form of prayer and thanksgiving though short is very much to the point and was very impressively pronounced by Mr. Mody. The following is the Prayer:—

O Holy Ahurmazda, our Heavenly Father, we Thy humble servants of the Mazdayasnian faith with heart-felt devotion praise Thy divine goodness and yield Thee unfeigned thanks for the many and signal blessings which Thou hast conferred upon the various peoples of the British Empire through the revered instrumentality of our Gracious Sovereign the Queen-Empress Victoria during the sixty years of her glorious and blessed reign. We Thy humble Zoroastrian worshippers, O Holy Creator, again yield Thee hearty thanks that Thou shouldst be pleased to let Thy wisdom be her guide and Thy arm her strength, so that in her the spirit of wisdom and strength, justice, truth, peace, and love flourish in her days to promote the general welfare, unification, and solidarity of her various subjects of all classes and creeds, and with uplifted hands we pray unto Thee O Merciful Mazda, to bestow upon our illustrious Sovereign Thy choicest blessings, to gift her with many years of a happy life resplendent with glory, and to continue her reign, O Holy God, with all honour. We beseech Thee, O Great Almighty, to bestow of Thy bounty upon our beloved ruler the blessings of the annihilation of famine and pestilence in her Indian and other dominions which, through Thy endless grace, favour, and providence, have grown up with the mother country as the Greater Imperial Britain, and to endow in this vast commonwealth the blessings of fruitful peace and plenty; and we supplicate Thee, O Good God, with all our hearts to crown the fulness of her days with the fulness of divine blessings, grace, and love, and receive our humble prayers, O Almighty Mazda, that these and all other Thy gifts may be long continued, and crown her with immortality in the life to come. Listen, we pray Thee, to this invocation of Thy servants of the Zoroastrian faith in Hongkong and grant us our wishes.—Amen.

The offerings collected after the close of the service will be given to the Zoroastrian Jubilee Fund started in 1887 for relief to the poor of all nations and creeds.

RELEASE OF PRISONERS.

On Saturday thirty-three prisoners were released from Victoria Gaol by order of His Excellency the Governor, this being an act of grace in honour of the Diamond Jubilee. The community is not likely to suffer in the least by the advantage gained by the released prisoners, as they were all in for short terms of imprisonment inflicted for very trivial offences, and there is not a single thief amongst them.

Lient. Storey, R.M.L.I., who has been taking the place of Captain Mercer, R.M.L.I., on the *Narcissus*, is, we learn from the *Nagasaki Express*, proceeding to succeed the latter officer in charge of the detachment of British marines at Seoul.

SUPREME COURT.

17th June.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, CHIEF JUSTICE.

THE CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED, v. THE STEAMSHIP "NORMANDIE."

The defendants moved for a dismissal of the plaintiffs' action on the ground that proceedings have already been taken in Shanghai.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. G. C. C. Master), appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings) for the defendants.

His Lordship delivered the following written judgment:—This is a motion by which the defendants seek to have the writ of summons and all subsequent proceedings in the action set aside, and the security given by them discharged, on the ground that the plaintiffs have recovered judgment against them in Her Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Japan in respect of the same cause of action. They also ask for their costs of the action. It will be convenient to state the circumstances under which the motion comes to be made. The writ of summons was issued on the 25th July, 1896, and by it the plaintiffs, as owners of the steamship *Pekin*, claimed the sum of \$50,000 against the steamship *Normandie* for damages occasioned by a collision which took place in the Whangpoo river, at the port of Shanghai, on the 3rd April, 1896. The *Normandie* was arrested, but was subsequently released, with the consent of the plaintiffs. On the 5th November, 1896, the defendants moved the Court for an order to stay all proceedings in the action pending the hearing and decision of an appeal to the Privy Council from Her Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Japan in a suit wherein the defendants, the owners of the steamship *Normandie*, were plaintiffs and appellants, and the plaintiffs, the owners of the steamship *Pekin*, were defendants and respondents. From the evidence used on the hearing of that motion it appeared that the defendants, as owners of the *Normandie*, had sued the plaintiffs, as owners of the *Pekin*, in the Supreme Court at Shanghai, for damages in respect of the collision which took place between the two vessels on the 3rd April, 1896; that the plaintiffs obtained leave from the Court to file a counter-claim against the defendants in respect of the same collision; and that, on the hearing of the action and counter-claim, the judgment of the Court was to the effect that *Normandie* was solely to blame for the collision, the defendants' action was dismissed with costs, and there was a declaration made by the Court that the defendants were liable for all damages and losses occasioned to the plaintiffs by the collision and for the costs of the action. It further appeared that an application made by the plaintiffs that the damages and losses might be assessed and final judgment entered up against the defendants for the amount so assessed, with costs, was dismissed by the Court on the ground that it would not make an order which it could not enforce. It also appeared that, on the application of the defendants, the Court gave them leave to appeal to Her Majesty-in-Council against the judgment. After the motion to which I am now referring had been fully argued by Mr. Robinson for the defendants, and by Mr. Francis for the plaintiffs, the Court made a conditional order for staying proceedings in the action, or, to express it in other words, the Court offered to stay proceedings on certain terms which it thought might reasonably be imposed on the defendants as a condition of granting the stay. The defendants have not, however, signified their acceptance of these terms within the time allowed them for that purpose, and consequently the motion stands dismissed. It will be apparent that the motion of which I have just been speaking and the motion now before the Court really have reference to the same matter, presenting it, however, from two different points of view. By the earlier motion it was contended that there was a *lis alibi pendens* (that is, the proceedings on

appeal in the Privy Council) between the present parties with regard to the same cause of action as that involved in the present action, and that it was therefore harassing and oppressive to the defendants that the present action should be allowed to proceed; while by the later motion it is alleged that the doctrine of *res judicata* applies to the situation in which the parties now stand to one another; that is, that the cause of action which the plaintiffs are now seeking to enforce has already formed the subject of determination by a Court of competent jurisdiction, that it has become merged in an existing and valid judgment of that Court, and that it cannot therefore be sued upon in this Court.

On the motion being called on for hearing, Mr. Francis took a preliminary objection to its being entertained by the Court. This objection rested upon two grounds—first, that such a motion could not be regularly made after the entering of an absolute appearance and the taking of subsequent steps in the cause, but could be made only after an appearance under protest and at the earliest possible moment; and, secondly, that such an objection to the action could not properly be taken by way of motion for setting aside proceedings, but should be put forward in the pleadings in bar of the action. With regard to the first of these grounds, it was argued by Mr. Robinson, in support of the motion, that the defendants' objection was one to the jurisdiction of the Court, and that if an objection to the jurisdiction is raised and shown at any stage of the proceedings in an action, the fact that the defendant appeared not under protest is immaterial; for the Court must stay its hand. He relied principally upon a dictum to this effect of Dr. Lushington in *The Eleanore*, Br. and Lush. 185. But in this and in other cases cited for the defendants the question raised was really a question whether the Court had jurisdiction at all to deal with the subject-matter of the action. In the present case, however, the question appears to be not whether the Court has jurisdiction to entertain a claim for damages by collision, brought against a vessel which is, or rather was, within the waters of the colony, but rather whether the plaintiffs are barred from prosecuting that claim in this Court by the fact that they have already recovered judgment in respect of it in a foreign Court of competent jurisdiction. The cases cited by Mr. Robinson do not, therefore, appear to me to be strictly in point. Yet, applying the analogy of those cases and assuming for the moment, for the purpose of deciding this head of objection, that the defendants can bring their present contention before the Court by means of a motion, I am unwilling to hold, in the apparent absence of authority to that effect, that the defendants are proceeding irregularly or are out of time in making this motion after entering an absolute appearance and after taking further steps in the cause. The first ground of objection will, therefore, be overruled. But I am of opinion that the second ground of objection, namely, that the defendants cannot properly put forward the defence of a judgment already recovered by way of motion for setting aside proceedings but should do so by way of pleading in bar of the action, is a good one and must prevail. It is laid down in the text books that a judgment recovered by the plaintiff in an action in an English Court of record merges the original cause of action and affords a good defence to a second action for the same cause. It is also said that a judgment of a foreign or colonial court against the defendant does not operate as a merger of the original cause of action, and, if not followed by execution or satisfaction, affords no defence to a subsequent action brought in England for the same claim. It is clear that such a judgment, though unsatisfied, may be ground for an application to stay proceedings in an action in England:—*Ostell v. Lepage*, 5 De G. and S. 95. These rules apply, *mutatis mutandis*, in the case of litigation in this Colony. But it lies on the defendant to establish the facts upon which a defence of this kind rests. If he sets it up, he must satisfy the Court that the Court which tried the former action was of competent jurisdiction; that the parties were the same; that the cause of

action was the same; and that judgment was recovered in respect of such cause of action and remains in force. The plaintiff is entitled to traverse any of these statements of fact. If he successfully controverts any of them, then the defence fails. It is obvious, therefore, that the putting forward of this defence involves the raising of definite issues between the parties with respect to the existence and effect of the previous judgment. It is equally clear that it can be put forward by way of pleading it. If the defence is established, the defendant is entitled to judgment and the plaintiff's action is at an end. In the present instance the defendants have not adopted this course of procedure. They have elected to bring forward this ground of defence to the plaintiffs' claim in a summary way, that is, by a motion asking the Court not to stay proceedings but to put an end to the action. Is there any authority for a motion of this kind? No such authority was cited by the defendants' counsel, and I have not been able to discover any such authority. In the absence of authority, it appears to me that, on principle, it would be very inconvenient to allow a defence of this kind to be raised by way of motion. I arrive, therefore, at the conclusion that the Court cannot entertain this defence in its present form, and consequently that the motion must be dismissed, with costs.

18th June.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

DISCHARGED.

Tong Wing, committed for trial for larceny from the person, and Lai Yat, committed for stealing a watch, were discharged, the Attorney-General offering no evidence against them.

ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.

Kwong Fung was charged with robbery with violence. He pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were—Messrs. J. P. Xavier, V. P. M. de Peralto, T. Yule, S. S. Benjamin, R. E. Kelly, F. W. Heuermann, and M. Heymann.

The Attorney-General (Hon. W. M. Goodman) prosecuted and explained that a man named Tam Ho was walking along Queen's Road Central on the 5th inst. carrying a bag containing \$993.88, when the prisoner assaulted him and snatched the bag. The thief was chased and caught and the bag and money, which he dropped, were recovered.

The jury, without leaving the box, convicted the prisoner.

His Lordship said the prisoner was liable to imprisonment for life and three floggings. The sentence would be three years' imprisonment and one flogging of twenty strokes.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held yesterday afternoon at the offices. Dr. Atkinson (Acting Colonial Surgeon) presided, and there were also present—Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. W. Chatham (Acting Director of Public Works), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

BY-LAWS REPEALED.

The MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH moved—“That the by-laws—with the exception of by-law No. 4—which were made by the Sanitary Board under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, on the 19th and 28th days of March, 1895, and approved by the Legislative Council on the 20th day of March and the 4th day of April, 1895, respectively, and which were published in Government Notifications Nos. 111 and 134 of 1895, be repealed as from the 22nd May, 1897, being the date of the publication of the new by-laws as set forth in Government Notification No. 201 of 1897.” He explained that the resolution was purely formal and was necessitated by the new by-laws made by the Board and approved by the Legislative Council with the exception of one relating to streets. It was advisable to

retain the old by-law relating to the obstruction of streets and for that reason he had excepted by-law 4, which referred to that subject.

The PRESIDENT seconded.

Carried.

NEW BY-LAW.

The PRESIDENT moved that an additional by-law, made under Section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, be passed and forwarded to the Colonial Secretary for the approval of the Government. The by-law provides that no street over land held under lease from the Crown, upon which any domestic buildings abut, shall be obstructed by any structure which may prejudicially affect the health of any of the inmates of such buildings. Should permission be refused the owner has the right of appeal to a Magistrate.

The MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH seconded.

Carried.

PLAGUE IN BOMBAY AND FORMOSA.

The official return from Bombay showed that from May 4th to May 18th there were 246 cases of plague and 182 deaths in the city and suburbs of Bombay. From the 19th to 26th May there were 76 cases and 58 deaths in Taiwan, Formosa.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 5th June the death rate in the colony was 24.9 per 1,000 per annum, as against 27.4 for the corresponding week of last year. For the week ended 12th June the death rate was 18.3, as against 17.7 for the corresponding period of last year.

A DANGER TO THE COLONY.

The following report on a Chinese Hospital in course of erection at Samshuipo was laid on the table:—

Sanitary Board Office,
Hongkong, 31st May, 1897.

Sir,—I have the honour to report for the information of the Board that I inspected the hospital which is in process of erection at Samshuipo on the 29th inst. It is evidently intended to be a large building as there is a retaining and enclosing wall fronting the sea, 200 feet long, while the lateral enclosing walls are 180 feet long. The Hospital is apparently to be built on the same model as the Chinese Hospital at Macao, namely, rows of cells, each about 8 feet by 7 feet, separable by passages 8 feet wide. There are two large windows with iron bars in each cell, giving through ventilation, while the rooms are fairly lofty and the doors open on to the 8 feet lane. The floors have not yet been dealt with, but will, with the passages, presumably be concreted. The buildings are being constructed of blue brick, while the enclosing walls are of granite pointed with cement. A large dam, built of granite, has been thrown across the outlet of a narrow gorge at the back of the Hospital, but whether it is intended to serve as a reservoir for water or not I cannot say.

The back of the Hospital is within ten feet of the conduit, which supplies fresh water to the junks, and this will be almost certain to be contaminated should any cases of plague, cholera, or typhoid fever be treated in the Hospital.

No provision appears to have been made as yet for the drainage of the Hospital except a surface channel on the western border, but this will no doubt follow when the floors are laid.

The Hospital will undoubtedly be a grave source of danger to this colony if used for the treatment of cases of infectious disease, for such cases will be smuggled out of the colony, leaving infected premises of which the Board knows nothing, while, again, convalescents will return here with infectious clothing or even before they themselves are free from infection. Both these conditions constantly happen at the present time, but with a native Hospital across the frontier the mischief will be greatly aggravated, and the only safeguards which I can suggest are to put into operation without delay the scheme of medical inspection of all vessels entering this harbour which has already been propounded by me, and during periods of special danger to control the entry of any Chinese into this colony overland.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

FRANCIS W. CLARK,
Medical Officer of Health.

The Secretary, Sanitary Board.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE said the first typhoon would blow down the building.

The PRESIDENT moved that the Board communicate with the Viceroy of Canton with the view to the prevention of the building now in course of erection being used as a hospital as in the Board's opinion it will prove a source of danger to the public health of the colony.

The ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board then adjourned for a fortnight.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE ROAD.

Mr. G. C. C. Master sends us for publication the following copy of a letter which he has addressed to the Hon. C. P. Chater as Chairman of the Jubilee Committee on the subject of the proposed new road round the island:—

Hongkong, 16th June, 1897.

The Hon. C. P. Chater, Chairman, the Jubilee Committee.

Sir.—Before the proposed Jubilee Road is actually commenced at Kennedytown, where the foundation stone is to be laid, may I ask that you and your Committee should once more consider the utility of that portion of the proposed road to run round Mount Davis and along the coast line until it joins the present road to Aberdeen, which I assume will be near the last Bay before Aberdeen is reached.

I ask you and the Jubilee Committee to seriously consider whether it is desirable to commence the road from such a distant point as Kennedytown and carry it round Mount Davis rather than to improve the present Pokfulum road by easing its gradients.

If the present idea of making the road round Mount Davis is carried out the cost of the road up to the point where it will join the Aberdeen Road will surely be very large as compared to the cost of easing the gradients of the Pokfulum Road; and does not the question arise as to whether the result will justify the cost?

I would also ask you and the Committee to consider whether, assuming a new road were made round Mount Davis and the gradients of the Pokfulum road were also eased, along which road would the majority of pedestrians, bicyclists, carriages, and equestrians proceed in order to get to or past Aberdeen, or even if the majority had no definite object in view would they probably proceed through China-town in order to enjoy the new road preferably to using an improved Pokfulum Road and by so doing avoid having to pass through China-town? Are the Chinese community likely to take to open air exercise merely on account of a new road, to reach the commencement of which many would have to travel a considerable distance?

I beg that you and the Committee will take steps to ascertain whether the wishes of the subscribers to the Jubilee Fund are really in favour of carrying the proposed road round Mount Davis irrespective of cost, and that this letter may be brought to the notice of the authorities before a sum, probably exceeding \$140,000, is spent in making such portion of the proposed new road and which after it is made may be found to be a failure as far as its use and benefit is concerned.

Will it not be better to first commence the improvement of the present pathway beyond Aberdeen and to extend the Shauiwan road to Sai Wan Bay leaving the question of the advisability of a road round Mount Davis to be considered later when the question of expense and utility has been more fully considered.

When it is remembered that the Jubilee Committee, who were nominated by the Governor, have not discussed the question of a road round the island with the public at a public meeting, and when it is also considered that to complete such a road a good deal of public money will have to be spent, I suggest it behoves the Committee to be quite certain they represent the wishes of the public, or at any rate the majority of the subscribers to the Jubilee Fund, before causing a large sum of money to be spent on a road round Mount Davis when the same object, viz., improved road accommodation, can be

more cheaply and expeditiously obtained by adhering to the present road as far as Aberdeen with improved gradients.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the local Press.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,
GODFREY C. C. MASTER.

TEBRAU PLANTING CO., LIMITED.

This, one of the latest enterprises brought into this colony, has been successfully floated by Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son, the General Managers, with a capital of \$100,000. The Company has bought the estate of the Tebrau Planting Company in Johore, which consists of 2,000 acres of fertile land of which 200 acres have been in cultivation for some years and have shewn good results in the production of gambier. It is now proposed to plant 300 acres with Liberian coffee and possibly extend the gambier production. Coffee is being successfully grown on the adjoining estate, "Castlewood," and the Tebrau manager, Mr. M. Larken, who is well known throughout China as a thoroughly experienced planter, has a large interest in both the Tebrau and the Castlewood estates. The old Tebrau Planting Co., has paid a dividend of 6 per cent. for the last three years and it is expected that when the new crops come into bearing a much larger dividend can be paid. The General Managers have received a bag of coffee from the Castlewood estate, which they will be pleased to show any of the shareholders.

PANIC AT TIENTSIN.

FOREIGNERS INSULTED

THE CONCESSIONS PREPARED

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
Shanghai, 18th June.

Absolute panic prevails in Tientsin city fermented by anti-foreign ruffians.

The causes are (1) The intended dedication on Monday of the French Cathedral; (2) Mahomedan discontent; (3) Kidnapping by Southern junkmen; (4) Discontent amongst the boatmen who have been superseded by the railway.

Some Foreigners have been insulted, but the Concessions are prepared and not alarmed.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *Shanghai Daily Press*, writing on the 1st June says:—This community has been much excited for the past few days by the great number of rumours that have been in circulation since the commencement of the rebuilding of the Catholic cathedral, which was destroyed at the time of the Massacre, and has been in ruins since. These rumours have been of all kinds, some of them the most atrocious, but no serious notice was taken of them until Sunday last, when an incident calculated to cause the greatest disquiet occurred. On that day two men were attacked by a mob in the streets of the native city, and killed, the charge against them being that they had stolen children to place under the foundations of the new cathedral. Later on during the same day another man was accused of the same crime and was thrown into the river by the excited people, and was drowned. These murders have caused great excitement, and as the cathedral is to be consecrated on the anniversary of the massacre, the natives affirm that there will be another outbreak and that it will mark another day of sorrow to the foreigners. The consular body is aware of the serious state of affairs, and it is reported that they have sent for gunboats to come here with the least possible delay. The excitement among the people is at fever heat, and you need not be surprised to hear at any time that there is more trouble. The consuls have sent word to the authorities, but so far as I can learn no official steps have been taken to prevent an outbreak. The Viceroy has too many troops here, however, and his "face" would be too much damaged by an outbreak, for him to allow any great trouble.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 5th June writes on the same subject as follows:—

As is not unusual at this time of year, when the rice boats from the south are bringing up their precious freight of tribute grain, kidnapping is abroad in the native city again, and has this year been attended by more than

usually serious consequences. The disappearance of several children last week led to two suspected Cantonese junkmen being attacked on Sunday last, and summarily decapitated outside the city gates, and since then, as the disappearance of children has continued, two or three more lives have been sacrificed. Considerable excitement prevails in the native city in consequence. The Taotai has shown commendable zeal in endeavouring to make some one responsible for these murders, and an official has been, we are told, beaten for the outrages having taken place, while a vendor outside whose shop one of the bodies of the victims was found, has been arrested. But, as some of our readers know only too well, the mischief is one which cannot be prevented, and scarcely even checked by such means. It is hard, indeed, to say in what way it can be avoided at all in the face of certain institutions and recognized customs prevailing in China, coupled with the almost impenetrable ignorance of the popular mind. Kidnapping is an evil which, under some excuse or another, prevails more or less all over China; but there are places and seasons in which the crime displays exceptional activity. The advent of the rice boats north furnishes an instance, and always brings more or less trouble in its wake. The Cantonese market for female children is always an active one, and if the usual demand is not satisfied by legitimate sales by poor parents of their female offsprings, a practice legalized by Chinese law, the required children are appropriated by force, and kidnapped by the Cantonese boatmen for the nefarious flower boat trade of the south. This particular year the supply of these unfortunate children, foredoomed to infamous slavery, is apparently limited, and kidnapping has been proportionately rampant. Why this annual demand should be made in this district is not quite clear, but presumably it is a question of poverty, as in years of privation the barter of children goes on with exceptional briskness. Those who know anything of China, know at least how small a thing serves to excite the public mind, and start superstitious fear and ignorant romance on the rampage, and how an explanation for the, to them, incomprehensible is frequently sought by the Chinese in apparently unreasonable directions. While, therefore, the disappearance of these children is laid by the better informed sufferers at the door of the real delinquents, it is inevitable that wild rumours should be circulated in which the, at best only dimly comprehended, foreigner should be involved. We are pleased to notice an absence, so far, of the more extravagant eye-gouging, heart-stealing medicine stories, but the mere fact that this wholesale disappearance of children is associated in the public mind with foreigners is sufficient to make it the obvious duty of all to avoid giving colour to these stories in any way. This can best be done, we believe, by foreigners of all nationalities and creeds refraining altogether from entering the native city until the kidnapping excitement has subsided. By so doing they will render not only themselves, but both the foreign and native communities a service which will be well repaid by the obviation of any possible trouble. The interests of a single business transaction or religious service may well at these times be sacrificed for the public good, and our intercourse with the Chinese is in no way fostered by any injudicious exhibition of a spirit of bravado, or callous indifference to their superstitions and prejudices. It is to this very indiscretion and indifference that many troubles in China are distinctly attributable, and all religious bodies who are here for the ostensible purpose of doing good, would do well to unite as far as possible with their commercial fellows in avoiding ground for offence or misunderstanding. In connection with this thought, we are in hopes that the Catholic body will not, as we have heard it suggested they may, fix the opening ceremony of their new cathedral for June 21st, with which date such unfortunate memories are associated. The events connected with the former cathedral building may be ancient history, but not sufficiently so to obviate the possibility of such a pointed reminder acting as an undesirable stimulus under present circumstances. Whether there is any risk in the association of such a ceremony with such a date or not, however, our Catholic friends would earn the

respect and admiration of the entire foreign community we feel sure, and probably enlist the sympathies of the more intelligent Chinese, by a change of programme, thereby obviating any reminiscences of the past being associated with the reopening of the cathedral.

Since our article was in type we have received information which tends to show that the excitement in the Native City is being utilized by some person to get up an agitation against foreigners, which undoubtedly has the new Catholic cathedral as its object. We are sorry to find this is the case, but fear there is a good substratum of truth in the rumours which reach us. It behoves everyone therefore, to exercise great circumspection just at present, and avoid fermenting the public feeling in any way. The tablet inscribed with the Government sanction for the reconstruction of the building, appears to have appealed favourably to the public mind. There is less excitement observable in the public demeanour according to latest accounts, but nothing to justify any relaxation of caution.

DIAMOND JUBILEE SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Hon. Treasurer begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contributions, viz:—

Already acknowledged	\$55,950.84
Institution of Engineers and Ship-builders of Hongkong	150
Horse Repository & Hongkong Dairy	50
Yuen Cheong Lee	50
W. F. Wenyon	25
Frederick Bishop	25
J. W. Boles	20
N. G. E.	20
L. M. Alvares & Co.	20
John Lemm	15
E. Osborne	15
Geo. Eckley	10
Arthur Anderson	10
Rev. A. Iliff	10
A. Moir	10
Wm. Blayney	10
W. B. Walker	10
A. P. Nobbs	10
A. G. Morris	10
X. Y. Z.	5
D. H. Silas	5
W. H. T. Davis	5
A. M. Roza Pereira	5
C. W. Duggan	5
J. Mahomed	5
R. A. Gubbay	5
S. H. Michael	5
P. P. J. Wodehouse	5
T. K. Dealy	5
J. E. Gomes	5
C. Lesbirel	5
George Weller	5
Chadwick Kew	5
J. M. Gomes	5
Canadian Pacific Railway Co.	250
Nippon Kyowa Kai	50
E. C. Ray	25
Geo. Medhurst	20
Jehangir Pestonjee	20
H. J. Holmes	10
M. Takano	10
Herbert J. Gedge	10
J. S. Perry	10
Leon A. Levy	10
P. Witkowski	10
R. O.	10
R. W. Dale	5
L. Schinz	5
N. V. Leefe	5
E. Mast	5
Smaller Subscriptions	12
H. S. Cooke	25
Dr. A. P. de Carvalho	20
H. D. Hawks	20
H. J. M. de Carvalho	10
H. Baxter	10
E. Goetz	10
A. Fuchs	10
Julio A. de Carvalho	5
F. B. Deacon	5
A. Sandor	5
M. Alsberg	5
A. Hahn	5
S. A. Joseph	5

Paul Grah	5
E. S. Joseph	5
Wilhelm Pucher	5
L. Lamcotte	5
A. Zwick	5
Pappin	5
Andrew Harvie	5
F. Lieb	3
E. Delbance	3
O. Struckmeyer	3
T. W. Vogelgerang	3
W. O. C. Spalckhaver	3
A. Mueller	3
G. Friesland	2.50
P. Sudhaus	2.50
T. Brugmann	2
B. Soonderam	2
A. Pinckernell	2
P. Hyndman	2
M. E. C.	1
D. D. Talati	1
C. B. Movravalla	1
M. H. Katrak	1
F. X. Ozorio	1
D. G. Prestage	1
J. A. Levi	1
A. Babington	25
G. Sierich	10
W. Davies	10
H. L. Looker	5
E. Daub	5
H. Schubart	3
C. Jesumann	3
G. Binder	3
A. v Bohnszewicz	3
H. Rumöker	3
L. Glissmann	3
W. Hamann	3
Lee Gee	3
Carl Hassager	2
R. Behn	2
Charles Attoch	2
N. S. Levy	2
S. A. Ahmed	2
M. J. Patel	1
M. Myer	1
D. P. J. Lopes	1
L. Lopes	1
O. G. da Rocha	1
G. Rocha	1
A. F. Rocha	1
L. Rocha	1
A. F. Ribeiro	1
P. A. do Rozario	1
F. X. Lopes	1
S. Pinna	1
Arthur	1
R. C. Vanis	3
Vital T. dos Remedios	3
L. E. O.	3
V. Rocha	2
A. M. Roza Pereira, Jr.	2
D. A. C.	2
J. H.	2
P. M. N. S.	2
M. E. R.	2
R. H.	2
C. P.	2
F. P. de V. Soares	2
R. R. Roberts	2
Jose A. D. de Graca	2
F. H. Hyndman	2
E. Ezra	2
S. H. Joseph	2
O. Baptista	2
A. E. Allemao	2
V. F. V. Ribeiro	2
E. M. S.	2
F. M. Roza Pereira	2
H.	1
Anonymous. (For Women and Children's Hospital)	1
P. S.	1
T. S.	1
A. M. L. Soares	1
J. J. Monteiro	1
E. Roberts	1
A. A. da Silva	1
H. M. Basto	1
A. H. M. da Silva	1
H. Alonco	1
A. J. C. da Rocha	1
J. F. C. da Rocha	1
J. M. da Rocha	1
F. M. P. da Rocha	1
L. F. Lopes	1
J. B. ...	1

L. J. Xavier	2
R. J. Remedios	2
A. S. Cohen	2
P. N. Dhalla	2
H. K. France	2
Rodolpho Xavier	1
C. R. Hager	1

\$57,336.84

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the board of directors to the eighth ordinary yearly meeting of Shareholders to be held at the Company's Offices (No. 27, Queen's Road Central) at Noon on Tuesday, 29th June:—

Gentlemen,—Your Directors have the pleasure to submit the accompanying Statement of the Company's Accounts for the year ending 30th April, 1897, and are pleased to be able to point to the further improvement in the Company's earnings shown in same.

After deducting Directors' fees, \$2,000, there is left the sum of \$33,190.93 available for appropriation, and your Directors recommend that be disposed of as follows:—

To pay a Dividend of 5%, say 40 cents per share	\$12,000.00
To write off Plant Account for depreciation	12,500.00
To carry forward to next account	8,690.93
	\$33,190.93

The Manager's Report annexed hereto gives usual particulars of the lamps installed during the year.

Directors.—Mr. J. Kramer resigned on leaving the colony and Mr. C. S. Sharp was invited to join the Board. In accordance with the Articles of Association Messrs. Dalrymple and Sharp retire, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Mr. G. Stewart and Mr. A. Coutts (in place of Mr. J. C. Peter at present absent from the colony), and they offer themselves for re-election.

H. L. DALRYMPLE,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 16th June, 1897.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 30TH APRIL, 1897.

LIABILITIES.	
Capital—\$0,000 shares each \$8 paid-up	240,000.00
Bills payable	12,084.17
Sundry creditors	4,493.07
Suspense account	20.00
Dividends unclaimed	974.80
Balance of profit and loss account	35,190.93
	\$292,762.97

ASSETS.	
Plant, cost of as per last account	\$179,399.58
Less amount provided for depreciation	10,000.00
	\$169,399.58
Cost of plant since added	9,219.06
	178,618.64

Property, cost of land and buildings	60,607.35
Installation material, stock of	22,889.26
Stores and coal, stock of	7,842.10
Tools, &c., on hand	1,538.57
Furniture, cost of	575.10
Insurance, value of unexpired portions of policies	100.00
Sundry debtors	9,688.35
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cash with	10,193.65
Cash with agents	704.45
	\$292,762.97

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.	
To salaries and wages	20,069.25
To coals	12,444.63
To installation material	6,143.64
To stores	5,398.00
To charges	2,313.25
To office expenses	2,000.00
To rent and taxes	1,605.56
To repairs	810.43
To insurance	369.50
To stationery	507.35
To tools	249.25
To auditors' fees	300.00
To legal expenses	91.00
To interest	82.15
To medical attendance	75.80
To telegrams	10.80
To bad and doubtful debts	148.14
To amount carried to profit and loss account.	27,071.70
	\$79,087.05

Cr.	
By gross earnings of the Company	79,086.00
By scrip and transfer fees	51.05
	\$79,087.05

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	
To balance available for appropriation	35,190.93
	\$35,190.93

Cr.	
By amount of undivided profit as per last report	8,119.23
By balance of working account brought down	27,071.70
	\$35,190.93

The following is the Manager's report:—

The Directors,

The Hongkong Electric Co., Limited.

Gentlemen,—I have to report that the number of Incandescent Lamps installed and connected to the Company's Mains on the 30th April, 1897, amounted to 3,175, equivalent to about 5,520 Lamps of 8 candle power.

The 75 Arc Lamps for Street Lighting have been in regular operation during the last year, and also the 7 Arc Lamps mentioned in my last report as having been erected in H. M. Naval Yard.

The Plant and Machinery have been maintained in good working order.—I remain, Gentlemen, Your obedient servant,

W. H. WICKHAM,
Manager.

THE EUREKA AND QUEEN MINES.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son, the General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, have received the following telegram from the Mines:—"A crushing of 200 tons of quartz from 'Eureka' has yielded half an ounce to the ton. There is no water to deal with worth speaking of; everything is going on satisfactorily."

The following reports were received per Yamashiro Maru:—

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

Mount Macdonald, 28th May, 1897.

Eureka Mine.—Since reporting on the 14th inst. work has been going on as usual, no change of any importance having taken place. At the 200 feet level the North drive has been extended to a total distance of 84 feet, the reef being 4½ feet wide and the stone of the usual grade. The South drive has extended a total of 57 feet to date, with the reef 5 feet wide and showing gold. This last measure to-day makes a total of 141 feet on the lode, without a break.

The winze to connect the 150 ft. and 200 ft. levels was completed on the 22nd inst., and back stoping is now being carried on North and South of the winze over the 200 ft. level. The reef is over 5 feet wide and of average quality.

Main shaft sinking was resumed this week, the work being done by two shifts of four men each, afternoon and night shifts, as the engine is required during the day shift to haul stone from the levels. We anticipate striking the reef in the shaft at about 41 ft. below the 200 ft. level chamber, but it will soon go out of the shaft, and good ground will be met with until the reef is cut. Our present output is 100 tons per week; this will be increased so that the battery may be kept fully employed, that is, if rain comes shortly, and the dam is almost empty now.

A cleaning up of about 260 tons will take place to-morrow, and crushing resumed at once. After the completion of the shaft, we will be able to double our output of stone.

p. pro JOHN D. HUMPHREYS AND SON.
C. J. WILLMOTT.

NEW BALMORAL G. M. CO., LIMITED.

Mount Macdonald, 28th May, 1897.

Queen Mine.—The contractors for the sinking of the main shaft are making fair progress considering the nature of the ground, up to date 35 ft. having been sunk. As the ground is improving now, they expect to make more progress. The work is being done constantly by six men constantly employed as per specifications, and has to be to the satisfaction of the

mining manager, though no stated time of completion is given, the supervision of the manager covering that.

Prospecting Shaft.—The west drive has been extended 13 (thirteen) feet, with no change since last in the country, only two men being employed here at present.

Grant Mine.—No work is being done here just now, but we propose letting a tribute to-morrow on the property.

p. pro JOHN D. HUMPHREYS AND SON,
C. J. WILLMOTT.

RAUB.

Referring to the telegram giving the result of the last rough clean-up at Raub and stating that the reef had been struck in the west cross-cut at Bukit Jalis, the *Singapore Free Press* of the 8th June says:—

To-day's Raub telegram is not unlike a lady's letter, for the gist of the communication lies in the postscript. Following that example we may first concern ourselves with the clean-up. This represents an indication of a fair normal result for the last month's work. The outcome of the monthly rough clean-up, which is intermediate between the two-monthly smeltings, is 2,800 ounces of amalgam for 1,400 tons of stone: equal to two ounces amalgam per ton. From this a fair guess may be made at the gold in the amalgam. On the usual proportion of gold in amalgam, say roughly $5\frac{1}{2}$ in 15, the gold would be 1026 ounces or a little over 14 dwts. per ton. This of course, while a very good Raub average, is not as good as the fine result of the last total smelting for March and April. But when there is only a relatively small battery to deal with stone from different workings, and necessarily varying in quality, a month-to-month uniformity is not to be anticipated. What should be remembered is that whatever is got from Raub in the present stage of development is not to be credited to mining so much as to exploration or the mapping out of the mine reefs, which will lie intact till the real mining era may begin, which to judge from all appearances, assuming that the mining machinery stands as it does, would really become remoter every day. In other words the discovery of gold-bearing stone to be mined, ascertained by actual measurement of depth, length, and thickness, is proceeding at a pace scores of times quicker than the rate at which the stone removed to make the requisite shafts, levels, winzes, and crosscuts is being passed through the battery. To put it otherwise, development—that is reef-discovery and location—is proceeding at bicycle rate, while milling goes on at walking rate, and every day, month, and year, increases the mileage between the two. The point of interest is the new development at Bukit Jalis or Jellis. These workings are roughly 1,000 yards, according to Mr. Bibby's memory, from Bukit Koman, where the big reef is being mapped out by exploration for future mining. Now there is no doubt, and the manager Mr. Bibby has no doubt, that Mr. Whyte has, acting on directions, struck on the identical reef that lies along well defined lines at Bukit Koman. The object of working on the cross-cut at Bukit Jalis was to see if the prolongation of the Bukit Koman reef could be discovered at that point. It has been discovered, and the telegram states that it is rich in quality and that the gold can be seen in it throughout. What does that imply? It implies that one of the probabilities in mining stands almost certainly proved: that is to say that the Bukit Jalis reef and the Bukit Koman reef are one and the same, and lies in continuity between those points, and probably further each way—how far no one can tell. Now this reef discovery is not a "fluke." The reef was presumed to exist on that line: it was looked for there: it was found there. This more than ever assures the future of Raub, quite independent of future development work. Taking the stone now "in sight," and assuming its vertical continuance (a strong geological presumption) to an indefinite depth, there would be no need to search for any further extent of reef, as far as this generation is concerned. This is the view of the Mine Manager himself. All additional work of an exploratory character to be done at Raub after this date would be not for the benefit of the present shareholders

but for their posterity. Let those who hold shares pay no heed to any statement from any quarter that would persuade them of a falling value or of indefinite risks. There are none, absolutely none; and it is a particularly good thing for the timid people who think that the existence of Raub hangs solely on the energetic tenacity and resource of its famous creator, Mr. Bibby, to see that the great reef has been cut at Bukit Jalis under the supervision of the capable second in command, Mr. Gilbert Whyte. If the shareholders (who cannot be expected to comprehend mining reports and possibilities) fully understood the position they would put a higher value on their holdings than the market does. There should be no market at all in the shares.

The *Straits Times* writes as follows:—With reference to the telegram from Raub published to-day, it may be noted that the clean-up is a rough clean-up for one month, not the two-monthly clean-up proper. The amount of gold, 980 ozs., derived from this rough clean-up, is of course only an estimated amount; but, presuming that estimate to be correct, the yield amounts to 14 dwts. to the ton up-to-date. The yield for the months of March and April was fully an ounce to the ton. It would hardly be fair, as yet, to institute any comparison, because the final results are usually better than they are at the rough clean-up. There remains to be dealt with the amalgam on the tables, blankets, and other devices used for securing the gold and, again, the amount of the yield for June has yet to be known. Some considerable importance is said to be attached to the discovery of the rich reef in the west cross-cut at Bukit Jalis, and Mr. Bibby declares himself very much pleased at the news. It is understood that the discovery of good gold at Bukit Jalis is supposed to enhance the value of the Bukit Koman Lode, inasmuch as it is believed to prove the extension of that lode onwards to Bukit Jalis.

THE WRECK OF THE "SULTAN."

The Chefoo correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes under date of 7th June:—You will no doubt have learnt by telegram of the loss of the Norwegian steamer *Sultan* on one of the Miaotao islands on the afternoon of Thursday, the 3rd of June. There was a dense fog at the time, encountered soon after leaving Newchwang. A Japanese steamer which was in company with the *Sultan* narrowly missed the same fate. The captain arrived here in a junk on Saturday; and that same evening Lloyd's surveyors left here for the wreck in the steam-tug *Pioneer*. She returned last night. The *Sultan* is badly ashore, engine-room and holds half full of water; cargo, chiefly bean-cake, water-logged. The after part of the steamer is in deep water, and she lies exposed to any sea which may get up from the westward. The Taku Tug and Lighter Company have already sent a salvage steamer, with all necessary appliances; but whether or no those interested will think it worth while to try and save the vessel remains to be seen.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE MEMORIAL AT HANKOW.

The people in Hankow are making active preparations for the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Mr. Pelham Warren, the British Consul, is to lay the foundation stone of the Victoria Hall; a brass plate bearing the following inscription is being prepared in Shanghai, to be affixed over it:—

"VICTORIA HALL.

"This foundation stone was laid by Pelham Laird Warren, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, on the 21st of June, 1897, in commemoration of the completion of the sixtieth year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty "QUEEN VICTORIA."

The hall is to be a very large building, and is to be built in the Club ground. It is to have a concert hall and theatre with dressing rooms attached, and will be available for various public functions, balls, concerts, meetings, etc. The plans and design have been prepared and submitted by Mr. John Smedley, architect. The Hankow people are going into the matter heart

and soul. After a service in the Church, there is to be a grand tiffin, and the whole place is to be illuminated in the evening.—*China Gazette*.

HOIHOW.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

We are informed that Mr. A. R. Marty's claim against the Chinese Government is for \$750,000, and the Taotai has offered \$300,000 to settle it. This offer is now awaiting the approval of the French Minister at Peking.

There is a strong opinion among the Chinese on this island that the French are only awaiting a good opportunity to take it under the fostering care of the tricolour, and every move the French make only confirms the Chinese in this opinion.

On 10th May the French Admiral on board the flag ship *Bayard* paid an unexpected visit to Ynlingkang Bay, staying there thirty-two hours. Boats were sent ashore, the crews of which took careful soundings both entering and leaving the harbour. As the average depth of water is seven fathoms, one naturally wonders why such care was taken. Officers also landed and took bearings from the surrounding eminences. The Admiral is reported to have said that the place would be greatly changed for the better within the next ten years. What did he mean? When asked if it was not true that his country had a slight fondness for the island, he replied that he was not supposed to know what his Government was in need of. If it is true that a wink is as good as a nod to a blind horse, I think we may say the Admiral's wink was a somewhat loud one. The French Vice-Consul at Hoihow is reported to have said that the *Bayard* was driven in by stress of weather. That could scarcely have been the reason, as the weather was of the finest for some twenty days before and for several days after her arrival. We do not think the foreigners here have any wish to see the French take possession of Hainan. At the present time the people are most friendly to us foreigners, and it is indeed a rare thing to be insulted by them.

The American Presbyterian Mission is doing much good, steady, and unostentatious work among the people here. A more cultured and refined body of missionaries it would be difficult to find. Without in the least surrendering their own convictions, they are, with true charity, ever ready to admit that we must often agree to differ if we would live at peace with all men. We trust they will meet with greater success in the near future. We paid a visit to their new Hospital and were most favourably impressed with all we saw there. Both in the operating room, in the consulting room, and in the dispensary, every thing was in apple-pie order. The instruments had the appearance of being new, although they have been in constant use for many years. In fact, there was a place for everything and everything was in its place. The Hospital is under Dr. H. M. McCandless, whose skill both as a physician and surgeon is well known here to both foreigners and natives. The Mission has every reason to be proud of such a talented gentleman. He is not only the physician; he is also the architect of both the hospital and the dwelling house. In building the latter, it is quite impossible for the most unfriendly critic to charge them with having built it out of the "few remaining bricks" for a more modest dwelling it would be difficult to find outside of Hainan. I would recommend those who are ever on the alert to find fault with missionary work to pay a visit to one of the mission hospitals which can always be found in any of the treaty ports. Let them see all the patients as they come before the doctor, and then I am convinced they will be ever ready to give praise and admiration where it is indeed due.

We are sadly in need of a decent building for a British Consulate. The present one would disgrace even the most poverty-stricken nation. There is no necessity for building a fancy structure. One with decent accommodation for the Consul and the public is all that is wanted. We would point out that in selecting a site for the building, the public convenience, and not that of the consul, should be steadily borne in mind. There must indeed be something rotten in the state of Denmark, when

HONGKONG.

it requires more than twenty years to seek a site to build upon. No sooner are the boundary stones put down in one place, than they are removed to another. It will soon be necessary to put weights on the top of the stones to keep them from walking from site to site of their own accord. What a pity it is that the editor of *Truth* does not give the Public Works Department a little attention. A slight rub of caustic would doubtless do them a deal of good.

We hear that the Catholic nuns may be soon expected to commence work here. With their advent will probably come trouble, for, as is well known, the Chinese always mistrust those who make it a special business to care for poor Chinese-children.

The French Vice-Consul is also wandering around on the look-out for a site upon which to build a French Consulate, so you see we have a great land thirst upon us.

THE BANIAN TREE.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 18th June.

The British community of Macao, as I have already mentioned, are going to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee on the 21st inst. There are to be illuminations from 9 to 11 p.m. and a soirée. The invitations are signed by Mr. S. E. Beeton. When national rejoicings of this kind take place it is usual, I believe, for the invitations to be issued in the name of the official representative of the community giving the entertainment, but in view of what has recently occurred it has apparently been thought advisable that the name of Mr. Goffe, the British Vice-Consul, should not appear in the matter. In Mr. Beeton the community has a very worthy unofficial representative.

Many people intend to go from Macao to Hongkong to attend the Jubilee celebration in your colony. No doubt the Chinese will also be going in large numbers, and Hongkong will be crowded.

The weather during the last two days has been extremely hot, notwithstanding that we have had occasional showers and that there has been little sunshine, the sky being overclouded. Even the nights have brought little relief from the extreme heat.

On Saturday last, before the Director of Public Works and the other members of the dredging committee, the contract for dredging the harbour was put up to competition. There was a large attendance of Chinese and the lowest offer was accepted, a Chinaman undertaking to do the work at the rate of \$2.10 per square cheung of mud taken away in the boats. The work is to begin sometime next week. The method of dredging decided upon is that the old dredger that the Government bought some years ago is to be used. I believe the mud dredged is to be taken up the river, where it will make reclaimed land for rice fields. This idea does not appear a good one, as the mud will be very likely to be carried down here again. Here in Macao itself there are many places where the mud might be used for filling-in purposes, by which a considerable amount of ground could be made available. The plan of Senhor Loureiro, the engineer, was to make a sea wall from Macao to Green Island, the mud dredged from the harbour to be used in filling up the mud flat on the other side. The sum at present voted is not enough for the construction of the sea wall, but the dredged mud could be used to fill up the old junk docks at Scokong. This would be carrying out a part of Senhor Loureiro's plan and the sea wall could be constructed afterwards. Meantime we would know that the mud would be deposited in a place from which it would not be washed out to again silt up the harbour. If the mud is to be deposited where it will be washed down again by the river the money expended will be wasted and the dredger will have to be kept at work for ever.

The Santa Casa da Misericordia has issued a notice to the effect that the Society intends to have a monthly lottery again, as before, and that the Society is prepared to receive offers from persons who wish to obtain the right of conducting it. Why cannot the Society run the lottery on its own account instead of dividing the profits with a farmer?

As we write (Monday) everything is in readiness for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, but everybody is afraid of the weather—an important and disagreeable factor at this time of the year, as the sun may be shining brilliantly one minute and the rain descending in torrents another. Given fine weather and the populace will show evidence of loyalty which will be hard to beat.

The *Della*, of Hamburg, the latest new steamer of the Kingsin Line, arrived here on 16th inst. on her first voyage. She is a vessel of 3,134 tons and 2,200 horse-power.

The maximum temperature last month was 90, on the 31st, and the minimum 67.6, on the 1st, the mean for the month being 79.1. The rainfall amounted to 14.86 inches.

Regulations are published in the *Gazette* with regard to vessels anchoring near the lines of telegraph cables. No ships, junks, or vessels of any description are to anchor within the indicated areas; provided that junks and other native craft employed at the North Point Petroleum Depot may anchor to the westward of a line drawn from the Eastern dolphin (300 feet from the pier) to the Eastern portions of the building on M. L. 277.

Those officials who affect to be so much afraid of the effect an unofficial Sanitary Board for Hongkong may be interested to know that the Home Department of the Government of India are preparing a comparative review of the methods of working and the relative success of Local and Municipal self-government throughout India. Most of the Provincial Administrations have already sent in their views upon the subject, which are understood to be, upon the whole, highly favourable to the working of the system in general, which, despite many shortcomings, has attained a far greater measure of success than was originally anticipated in many quarters.

As the Magistracy on 16th inst., before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, one of the owners of the cigar shop at 231, Queen's Road Central, which, it is alleged, was wilfully set on fire on the 21st May, was charged with arson. The prosecution was conducted by Mr. H. L. Dennis, Crown Solicitor, and the prisoner was defended by Mr. Reece. The evidence for the prosecution went to show that stock books had been altered by the prisoner in order to show a bigger stock than was actually in the shop. A former partner in the shop, who was brought down from Canton, said that the prisoner told him he would set fire to the shop because he had to pay off a debt owing to a man in California. The prisoner was remanded.

In the Supreme Court at Shanghai on the 12th June, before Sir N. J. Hannen, Mr. E. Nelson (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) applied on a writ of *habeas corpus* for the discharge of Edward Vincent, who was arrested at Shanghai on a provisional warrant from Hongkong on a charge of stealing certain property of the Canadian Pacific Company, in whose service the prisoner had been as store-keeper. The grounds of the application were that the evidence against the prisoner did not show strong and proper presumption of guilt, and that, if there were reasonable or probable grounds, the charge was of a trivial nature. His Lordship refused the application and said that when the prison bonds returned from Peking the prisoner would be sent to Hongkong.

At the Police Court on the 18th inst., before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, the keeper of an arms shop at 206, Queen's Road Central, was charged with not entering a sale of arms into his register. The magistrate considered the charge proved and told the defendant that he was convicted on the clearest possible evidence, but he had chosen to contest the case. On the previous day two arms dealers, who pleaded guilty, were each fined \$50 for a similar offence and defendant would be fined \$100. Mr. Gedge who appeared for the defence, said the effect of His Worship's decision was that if a defendant disputed a charge and employed a solicitor he would be fined double. His Worship replied that he would not have his decision commented upon and told Mr. Gedge to sit down. Mr. Gedge sat down.

Commander W. C. H. Hastings has been sworn in as Assistant Magistrate in order to relieve Mr. Wodehouse of some of the magisterial duties during the Jubilee preparations and celebrations.

Three Chinese dealers in arms were charged before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse on 16th inst. with selling arms to persons not authorized to carry them and also with not entering the sales of arms in a register. Each defendant was fined \$50 for each offence.

A thief has lately been busy at the Victoria Recreation Club, and his latest exploit has resulted in a very good haul. Money belonging to the Club was kept in a safe in the office of Mr. Lisberel, the steward, and on the mornings he found on going to the safe that it was unlocked. On the first occasion he did not attach any importance to the fact, thinking that probably he himself had left the safe unlocked. On the second morning, however, he counted the money and found that over \$300 was missing. He did not make any report to the police until the following morning, when he found that the safe had again been tampered with and that a further sum had been taken, making a total of \$314. Inspector Quincey is now inquiring into the robberies. It is thought that the thief opened the safe with a key which unlocked but could not lock.

The old Hongkong Club-house has been purchased by Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son for \$127,000. When in 1893 the Club decided to build new premises on the Praya Reclamation the old premises were sold to the French Mission for \$105,000, one of the conditions of the sale being that the Club should continue in occupation until the new premises were ready. The transfer to the new premises will now shortly take place. The purchase of the old Club-house by Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son has set various rumours afloat, one of the most persistent being that the object of the purchase is the establishment of a new English Club. On enquiry from the purchasers we were unable to obtain any definite information as to the use to which the property is intended to be put, the matter not having been finally settled. It seems to be a fact, however, that the idea of starting a new Club is under consideration.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

CANTON, 15th June.—Macao Congous.—Settlements for the fortnight consist of 1,600 boxes at Tls. 9½ to Tls. 27 per picul. The second crop is reported as being very scanty and prices are high owing to the native demand for leaf for manufacture into Ponchongs. Scented Capers.—Immediately after the publication of last report some purchases were announced and on the following day buying became fairly general. Altogether some 54,000 boxes have been settled, the demand, at first, running on Fine to Curio lines, which were taken at full prices; latterly fine teas have declined in price Tls. 1 to Tls. 1½ per picul whilst medium to good medium are cheaper by about Tls. 1 per picul. Prices generally range about the same as last year for good medium to curio, but grades below good medium can be obtained at lower tael cost than last season. The pure Saikong teas, when unmixed with old, are certainly of excellent quality, and scenting flower was never better than it has been this season; in make, however, many of the teas do not compare favourably with last year's first crop, and they are somewhat lighter in colour; their general excellence in cup should however, outweigh these defects in an otherwise excellent first crop. Scented Orange Pekoes.—The demand for long leaf Tayshans appear to be exhausted. The usual proportion of Onehaine is being offered with the capers this year, but many of the lower qualities are so dusty that buyers refuse to take them. The first crop scented caper leaf is now all to hand and is reported as 20 per cent. short of last season. Considerable quantities of last season's leaf still remain in some quarters, which will doubtless to some extent figure as New Season's Tea in future Reports.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow ...	3,696,800	8,903,670

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	682,144	1,237,393
Shanghai and Hankow ...	3,877,781	3,918,618
Foochow	1,036,063	1,950
	5,595,938	5,157,946

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Kobe	487,354	665,067

SILK.**EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.**

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	246	653

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	120	73
Foochow	501,564	4,080
	501,684	4,153

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 21st June.—The market is brisk and prices have advanced a little. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$45.00 to \$45.50. Sales, 120 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 21st June.—There is no material alteration to note in the position of this market. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.20 to 7.23 per picul.
do., " 2, White...	6.65 to 6.71 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.30 to 4.32 "
do., " 2, Brown...	4.41 to 4.44 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.10 to 7.12 "
do., " 2, White...	6.46 to 6.52 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.30 to 4.32 "
do., " 2, Brown...	4.20 to 4.22 "
Soochow Sugar Candy	11.00 to 11.10 "
Shekloong	9.45 to 9.50 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Antenor*, sailed on the 31st May. For London:—1 case silks, 3 cases effects, 10 cases essential oil, 2 cases gongs, 40 cases bristles, 16 cases chinaware, 105 cases cigars, 298 cases shells, 65 cases soy and 11 packages sundries. For Liverpool:—16 cases cigars and 2 packages effects. For Glasgow:—1 package sundries. For Havre:—159 boxes tea. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—10 cases bristles. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—750 cases cassia lignea. For Hamburg:—10 cases aniseed oil, 50 cases bristles, 237 cases wood oil, 134 bales galangal, 312 bales feathers and 3 packages effects. For Hamburg and/or London:—371 cases wood oil.

Per P. and O. steamer *Sunda*, sailed on the 12th June.—For Liverpool:—8 boxes china paper. For Manchester:—30 bales waste silk. For London:—1 case cigars from Manila, 14 bales feathers from Foochow, 34 bales feathers, 1 case feathers, 462 bales canes, 405 bales waste silk, 2,023 bales mats and matting, 100 cases cassia buds, 10 cases bristles, 73 cases china-ware, 11 cases blackwoodware, 66 cases pearl shells, 13 cases sundries, 12 pieces rattan chairs, 3,257 boxes tea 68,397 lbs. congou, 20,044 boxes tea 420,917 lbs. sc. caper, and 418 boxes tea 8,566 lbs. sc. or. pekoe. For Trieste:—171 boxes tea.

The German steamer *Oceana*, sailed on the 12th June. From Hongkong for Havre:—23 cases lithogr paper, 208 packages tea, 52 bales canes, 14 cases blackwoodware, 16 cases china-ware, 6 cases silks, 7 cases feathers, 1 package sparelables, 100 rolls mats, and 1 case cassia samples. For Havre option Hamburg:—1 case feathers and 100 boxes camphor. For Havre option Hamburg option London:—54 cases essential oil, 1,250 cases cassia lignea, 600 cases camphor, 139 bales feathers, and 10 cases cassia oil. For Hamburg:—9 packages chinaware, 500 cases cassia lignea, 1 case silk, 201 bales feathers, 84 bales rattans, 17 packages crackers,

21 cases essential oil, 615 packages tea, 40 bales canes, 4 cases copperware, 19 packages graphit, 2 casks oil, and 15 packages sundries. For Lisbon:—1 case silk and 2 cases chinaplate. For New York:—71 bales rattancores.

The German steamer *Wally*, sailed on the 14th June. From Hongkong for Havre:—30 cases bristles. For Havre option Hamburg option London:—300 cases camphor. For Hamburg:—100 bales galangal, 150 cases cassia, 3 packages crackers, 2 packages tea, 20 cases teasticks, 2 cases paper 4 packages grasscloth, 50 cases bristles, 2 cases feathers, 125 packages canes, 24 packages rattancores and 10 packages sundries. For Copenhagen:—101 cases cassia, 4 bales broken cassia, 3 bales feathers and 6 packages sundries.

The P. & O. steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind*, sailed on the 17th June. For Manchester:—10 cases piece goods. For London:—4 cases cigars (from Manila), 8 cases cigars, 2 birds feathers, 1 case violins, 126 boxes tea (2,520 lbs. congou), 5,462 boxes tea (114,702 lbs. Sc. caper). For Gibraltar:—1 case silk, and 1 cases cigars. For France:—727 bales raw silk, 14 cases silks and 419 packages tea. For Genoa:—20 bales raw silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 21st June.—Bengal.—There has been a sharp spurt in prices owing to news of the Government of India having decided to sell 39,000 chests only during the next year. New Patna closes at \$700, Old Patna at \$770, and New Benares at \$700 per chest.

Malwa.—The market has ruled rather quiet, latest quotations being as under:—

New (this yr's)	\$760 with allance of 5 catties
" (last yr's)	\$780 " 1 to 2 "
Old (3/5 ")	\$800 " 2 to 2 1/2 "
Older	\$820 " 1/2 to 2 "

Persian.—There has been a fairly steady business in this during the interval, and prices close at \$500 to \$620 for both Oily and Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	1,340 chests.
Old Patna	190 "
New Benares	290 "
Malwa	250 "
Persian	580 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
June 17	656 1/2	720	652 1/2	—	760	820
June 18	655	720	652 1/2	—	760	820
June 19	695	760	690	—	760	820
June 20	700	770	700	—	760	820
June 21	700	770	700	—	760	820

RICE.

HONGKONG, 21st June.—Prices are still advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.53 to 2.56
" Round, good quality	2.75 to 2.78
" Long	2.81 to 2.86
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.63 to 2.65
" Garden, " No. 1	2.88 to 2.90
" White	3.61 to 3.65
" Fine Cargo	3.75 to 3.78

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 21st June.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—25 bales No. 6 at \$79.50, 610 bales No. 10 at \$83 to \$94.50, 285 bales No. 12 at \$84 to \$90. 80 bales No. 16 at \$91.50 to \$98.25, 525 bales No. 20 at \$98 to \$101. *Grey Shirtings*.—600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Peach at \$2.90, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Flower Vase at \$3.90, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Stag at \$3.90, 1,800 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.55, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Snake and Elephant at \$2.90, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Triangle at \$3.82 1/2, 750 pieces 10 lbs. Sycee at \$3.80. *White Shirtings*.—150 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.82 1/2, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.25, 1,000 pieces No. 300 at \$9.55, 500 pieces No. 600 at \$4.30, 2,250 pieces Soldier at \$2.75, 250 pieces S. Q. at \$4.10, 1,750 pieces No. 366 at \$2.72 1/2, 150 pieces Gold Tiger at \$6, 150 pieces E. K. at \$5.85, 150 pieces D. K. at \$1.85, *T. Cloths*.—375 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Gold Pheasant at \$1.95,

4,525 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Silver Lion No. 2 at \$1.82 1/2. *Drills*.—150 pieces 14 lbs. Peacock at \$3.85. *Camlets* 100 pieces Assorted Oldman at \$17.70. *Metals*.—Iron—1,000 bundles Basic Steel at \$4.02, 420 piculs round bear at \$3.95, 100 kegs wire nails at \$4.90, 400 piculs wire nails at \$5.85.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 21st June.—Jubilee holidays necessitate the issue of my report a little earlier than usual. Business has been rather quiet and rates show but few alterations.

BANK SHARES.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled firmer with sales at 182 to 183 per cent. prem., and further buyers at the higher rate. Nationals sold at \$23 and are in demand.

MARINE INSURANCE SHARES have ruled very quiet and all that has taken place, are sales of China Traders at \$77 1/2 and Straits at \$17 1/2 to \$18. *Union* are wanted at \$225 and China Traders at \$182 1/2, while Yangtszes at \$155, Cantons at \$182 1/2, and Straits at \$18 are on offer. North China are wanted for the North at Tls. 18 1/2.

FIRE INSURANCE SHARES.—Hongkong remain unchanged with buyers at \$352 1/2 to \$353 and no sellers under \$355. Chinas sold at \$103, but are offering in small lots.

SHIPPING SHARES.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled quiet with small sales and further sellers at \$35 1/2 cash and end of the month. Indo-Chinas sold in fair quantities at \$47 to \$47 1/2 cash and end of the month and are in demand at the higher figure. China and Manilas can be placed at \$75 1/2, while Douglasses are quiet at \$65 1/2. China Mutuals unchanged.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have improved slightly, and, after sales at \$140, \$141, \$141 1/2, and \$142, are in demand at the latter rate for delivery on 30th instant. Luzons changed hands at \$50 cash and \$53 for 31st August, and close firm.

MINING SHARES.—Punjoms have not been able to keep up last rates, and down to \$6 1/2 has been accepted for ordinary shares, at which rate, however, shares are in request; preferences are quiet with sellers at \$2 1/2. Charbonnages have sellers at \$100. New Balmorals sold in larger lots up to \$2.20 and \$2.50 for ordinaries and preferences respectively, but close quiet with sales and sellers at \$2.10 for ordinary and \$2.30 for preference shares. Raubs continued in steady demand and up to \$31 1/2 has been paid for shares, the market closing somewhat easier at \$31. Olivers have not changed hands to any appreciable extent, and rates are unchanged; a telegram from the mine reports a crushing of 200 tons yielding half an ounce of gold to the ton.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue neglected, and only small parcels sold at 242 per cent. premium for 30th instant, at which rate shares are on offer. Wharf shares, after further sales at \$68, are rather weak and freely offered at \$68. Other stocks under this heading unchanged.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands sold to a small extent at \$78, but close quiet. Kowloon Lands fetched \$18 1/2 to \$19 and West Points \$21 1/2 with further buyers. Hotels changed hands at \$48, \$48 1/2, and \$49 closing firm at latter rate. Humphreys are for sale at \$9.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands sold at \$37 and are rather weak at that figure, with no buyers over \$36. Watsons are in demand at \$12 1/2. Hongkong Electrics have sellers at \$8, although the report just published shows a net profit of 13.83 per cent. on the paid up capital for the year ended 30th April, 1897. The figures are as follows: Net profit (including \$8,119.23 brought forward from last report and deducting \$2,000 directors' fees) \$33,190.93 (against \$30,119.23 for previous year including \$16,106.82 brought forward). It is proposed to pay a dividend of 5 per cent, say 40 cents per share, on the paid up capital, absorbing \$12,000, write off for depreciation \$12,500 (last year \$10,000), and to carry forward to new account the balance of \$8,690.93. Ropes have buyers at \$174. Ices sold at \$113 and Tramways at same rate, closing with buyers. Tebrau's (\$2 paid up) sold at \$2 1/2. Fenwicks sold at \$28 and have buyers at that figure. All Cotton shares are a little easier, although a fair business has been done in Ewos at Tls. 117 c. and

Tls. 118 for 10th July, as well as in International at Tls. 123.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	188 3/4 buyers
China & Japan, pref.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	£5
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£3	\$23, sales & buyers
Founders Shares	£1	\$20
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$9, sellers
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	(in liquidation).
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$34
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$3
China Sugar	\$100	\$142, sal. & buyers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	(in liquidation).
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$8
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$28, sales & buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$37, sellers
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$33, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$8, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$113, sales
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$11
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$13, sales
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$38, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$17, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	242 p. ct. prem.—
Insurances—		\$427, sellers
Canton	\$50	\$182, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$103, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$77, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$353, buyers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 187, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$18, sales & sellers
Union	\$25	\$225, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$155, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$78, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$19, sales
West Point Building	\$40	\$21, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$52, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$100, sellers
Jelebu	\$5	\$2.25, buyers
New Balmoral	\$1	\$2.10, sal. & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$2.30, sales & sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$21
Do. B.	\$2	\$8
Punjom	\$4	\$63, sales & buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$2.25, sellers
Ranbs	13s. 10d.	\$31, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$75, buyers
China Mutual Ord.	£5	£2 10s.
Do. Preference	£10	£7, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$65
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$35, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$47, sal. & buyers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37	\$44, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

MONDAY, 21st June.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.49
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.53
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.02
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	48 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	49 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	162
Bank, on demand	163
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	162
Bank, on demand	163
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74
Private, 30 days' sight	74 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	par.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	par.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand par.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate 9.94
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 50.75

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Rosetta (str.), Formosa (str.),
Benledi.
For VICTORIA.—Victoria (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—China (str.), Belgic (str.),
Heathbank (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Clan Mackenzie, Argyll (str.),
Fortuna (str.), Carmarthenshire (str.).
For AUSTRALIA.—Menmuir (str.), Sagami Maru
(str.).
For TACOMA.—Olympia (str.).
For SOUTH AFRICA.—Pongola (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST
MAIL.

HONGKONG.

June—

ARRIVALS.

16, Activ, Danish str., from Hongay.
17, Pronto, German str., from Chefoo.
17, Hinsang, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
17, Haimun, British str., from Amoy.
17, Chingping, Chinese str., from Tientsin.
17, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
18, Taiyuan, British str., from Foochow.
18, Yamashiro Maru, Jap. str., from M'bourne.
18, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
18, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
18, Taicheong, German str., from Swatow.
18, Tientsin, British str., from Shanghai.
18, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
18, Sikh, British str., from Japan.
19, Taksang, British str., from Canton.
19, Cosmopolit, German str., from Canton.
19, Canton, British str., from Canton.
19, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
19, Ingraban, German str., from Saigon.
19, Chihli, British str., from Canton.
19, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
20, Plover, British g-bt., from Tamsui.
20, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
20, Pronto, German str., from Canton.
20, Tientsin, British str., from Canton.
20, Brindisi, British str., from Bombay.
20, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.
20, Hohenzollern, German str., from Y'hama.
20, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
20, Kwei-yang, British str., from Shanghai.
20, Losook, British str., from Bangkok.
20, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
20, Olympia, British str., from Tacoma.
20, Polyphemus, British str., from Liverpool.
20, Propontis, British str., from Mauritius.
20, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
20, Preussen, German str., from Shanghai.
21, Borneo, British str., from Yokohama.
21, Sullberg, German str., from Newchwang.
21, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
21, Teenkai, British str., from Yokohama.
21, Ulysses, British str., from Foochow.
21, Yungohing, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
21, Thekla, German str., from Moji.

June—

DEPARTURES.

17, Benlawers, British str., for Kobe.
17, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
17, Etha Rickmers, German sh., for Bangkok.
17, Hyson, British str., for Singapore.
17, Trocas, British str., for Nagasaki.
17, Cosmopolit, German str., for Canton.
17, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
17, Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
17, Dante, German str., for Saigon.
17, Frey, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
17, Kaiser-i-Hind, British str., for Europe.
17, Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.
17, Verona, British str., for Yokohama.
17, Yanariva, British str., for Iloilo.
17, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
18, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
18, Loyal, German str., for Chefoo.
18, Pronto, German str., for Canton.
18, Chowfa, British str., for Hoihow.
18, Chowtai, British str., for Swatow.
18, Foochow, British str., for Australia.
18, Glenfalloch, British str., for Swatow.
18, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
18, Oscarshah, Norw. str., for Kebao.
19, Activ, Danish str., for Hongay.
19, Tientsin, British str., for Canton.

19, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
19, Haimun, British str., for Amoy.
19, Independent, German str., for Kobe.
19, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
19, Taiyuan, British str., for Australia.
19, Zaffro, British str., for Manila.
20, Chihli, British str., for Shanghai.
20, Chingping, Chinese str., for Canton.
20, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
20, Framnes, Norw. str., for Saigon.
20, Kwei-yang, British str., for Canton.
20, Sikh, British str., for New York.
21, Arratoon Apear, British str., for Calcutta.
21, Canton, British str., for Samarang.
21, Daphne, German str., for Shanghai.
21, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
21, Thales, British str., for Taiwanfoo.
21, Taksang, British str., for Shanghai.
21, Ulysses, British str., for London.
21, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
21, Yamashiro Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
21, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.
21, Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
21, Yungohing, Chinese str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Hyson, str., from Japan and Shanghai.
—Miss Hogg and Mr. Ross.
Per Tsinan, str., from Sydney.—Mrs. Sulen-
meyer, Messrs. Harris, Kelly and Stempel, and
Miss E. Hale.
Per Della, str., from Hamburg, &c.—Capt.
Pieper, Messrs. Meyer, Fackel, and Pastewsky.
Per Hinsang, str., from Kutchinotzu.—Messrs.
Thomas Clarke, P. R. Wallace, D. Mackintosh,
R. C. Oliver, S. Graham, and F. Lindburg.
Per Haimun, str., from Tamsui, &c.—Dr.
and Mrs. Fest and child.
Per Taiyuan, str., from Foochow.—Messrs.
Shepherd, Jolly and Bouchen.
Per Yamashiro Maru, str., from Australia for
Hongkong.—Mrs. Goodchilds and Mr. J. S.
Lynch. For Yokohama—Messrs. Ourlat, T. H.
Wilson, Meager, and A. Vernon.
Per Thales, str., from Taiwanfoo, &c.—Mr.
D. Sliman.
Per Loosok, str., from Bangkok.—Mr. Raon.
Per Olympia, str., from Tacoma.—Mr. Edgar
G. Barrett.
Per Polyphemus, str., from Liverpool.
Messrs. Fergusson and Lovegrove.
Per Brindisi, str., from Bombay.—Messrs.
S. R. Hargeon and N. E. Benjamin.
Per Hohenzollern, str., from Yokohama.—Mr.
and Mrs. Atkins, Messrs. A. Atkins, J. Taylor,
M. Kler, Ed. Thorwest, Miss A. Mabs-Fickurli,
Mrs. Humphreys and daughters, Messrs. F.
B. Jacob, Gasperi Valeris, Hempel, Steiner,
Schmidt, and Filmer.

DEPARTED.

Per Suisang, str., for Singapore.—Mr. Mercer.
Per Kaiser-i-Hind, str., from Hongkong for
Singapore.—Messrs. H. J. Hart and C. E. Hume.
For Colombo.—Mr. Peden. From Shanghai for
London.—Messrs. J. McBain, Hastings Thomas,
Rev. R. Woolfenden, and Mr. J. J. B. McIntyre.
Per Verona, str., from Hongkong for Naga-
saki.—Mr. R. H. Wakefield. For Kobe.—Messrs.
E. A. Apear, Seth Apear, and J. F. Duff. For
Nagasaki from Singapore.—Miss O'Komura.
For Yokohama from London.—Mr. Kirkwood,
Mr. and Mrs. Duce and child, Misses Duce (2).
From Singapore.—Messrs. W. W. Leitch, C.
W. Bowbyes, W. Lukas, F. Jarrold, A. Hulse,
C. Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell.
Per Doric, str., for Shanghai.—Mrs. Iburg
and child, Messrs. E. F. Bateman, R. Inglis, F.
Harris, and Shepard. For Nagasaki.—Mr. and
Mrs. M. Soleta. For Kobe.—Mrs. J. Tremaine
Smith and daughter. For Yokohama.—Mr. C.
Hunghem, Miss H. Smith, Miss F. Fuller,
Messrs. O. Liman and E. Ewens. For Hono-
lulu.—Messrs. H. Waterhouse and A. Water-
house, Dr. and Mrs. F. R. Day. For San Fran-
cisco.—Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. Chan Yen Fung and
son.
Per Lyeemoon, str., for Shanghai.—Messrs.
Gehring and MacDonald.

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